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THURSDAY APRIL 25TH, 2019

Three Horseshoes Country Inn Moulton, Nr Barry
Traditional, Tasteful, Tempting!

Local beaches enjoy record-breaking Easter weather - see pictures on page 6.

Bereaved parents give the 'gift of time' to families at Tŷ Hafan

INSPIRATIONAL parents whose daughter, Elis Rose, passed away at just 16 months in 2010, visited Tŷ Hafan children's hospice at the weekend to present staff and families with special gifts following an 18-month fundraising journey.

Vikki and Alun Williams, bereaved parents from Cowbridge who established the 'Elis Rose Legacy Fund', were welcomed to the hospice on April 13 to speak about their experience of bereavement and as fundraisers, having raised £11,000 to help families facing similar situations at Tŷ Hafan.

Alongside raising enough money to refurbish the hospice's complementary therapy room, the couple presented the charity with a 'CuddleBlanket', a piece of equipment that keeps the child's temperature low to allow families to spend as much time as possible with their child after death; to say goodbye in their own time.

They also gifted 70 'Heart In Their Hand' keepsakes — tiny silver hearts that can be placed in the child's hand or blanket when saying goodbye, while the parents keep the accompanying keyring as a reminder of the connection shared.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Defibrillator installed in Llanblethian phone box

Llanblethian Community group members at the phone box. (Photograph by Mike Wilcock).

LLANBLETHIAN Community Group (LCG) has announced that a defibrillator is now operational in the village.

It is located in the decommissioned phone box on Bridge Road opposite the church hall. This follows the adoption of the kiosk for the community by The Community Heartbeat Trust, arranged by LCG.

The defibrillator is easy to use in an emergency, although demonstrations are planned and anyone interested in attending a demo can email LCG (*llanblethiancg@gmail.com*).

CS

School closure latest

THE row over the future of Llancarfan Primary School flared up again this week, with the Vale Council at loggerheads with Rhoose councillor and regional AM, Andrew RT Davies.

At issue is the interpretation of remarks made by the Welsh Government Education Minister, Kirsty Williams.

Mr Davies says that her remarks mean it is time for a rethink on plans to 'migrate' the school to a site four miles away in Rhoose, while the Vale Council has insisted that this is not the case.

For full details on this, turn to page 18.

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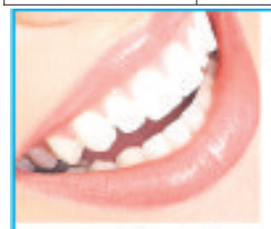

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address, contact telephone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

'Teenagers cause more mess than dogs'

GLADSTONE Park gets in a mess when school is out, mainly through teenagers leaving their juice bottles and snack wrappers all over the park.

Cigarette butts surround the seats and broken glass is left on the paths.

However, they can't put their rubbish in the bins because they are all full and haven't been emptied for days.

Dog walkers are looked down upon, yet the kids leave a more visible mess.

The new trees have been ruined by smaller children; the supports that have no tree left should be removed.

Christine Davies, Barry.

'Chaos' at Five Mile Lane

DO the Vale Council and Welsh Assembly realise the frustration of the ill-coordinated mess which is the straightening of the Five Mile Lane?

It is typical of the construction industry and builders that they start in different areas and then finish in a flourish to fanfares of a great job done.

There is no doubt it will be a great road when it is finished.

Why wasn't one end finished, Waycock Cross, with the whole workforce and the work 'in the fields' could then be the next stage, which does not cause the mayhem which was the A4050 for eight weeks.

There does not seem any end to this chaos as there are now four sets of traffic control at the moment.

Paul Blanchard, Barry.

Europe will hold together (geologically speaking)

I AM a geologist with some specialisation in the field of global tectonics.

I would like to reassure last week's correspondent Mr Workman, of Cowbridge that, short of a catastrophic asteroid impact, there is no mechanism whereby the land areas of the UK, Norway or Switzerland might physically leave the European continent on the timescale of even many thousands of human lifespans, and, as such, it is safe for us to continue to use 'Europe' as a useful synecdoche for 'the EU'.

I doubt that the letters page of The GEM would survive such an event, so Mr Workman's opportunity for an 'I told you so' response in such a circumstance will be limited.

James Blight, Barry.

Reader's questions on the Dinas Powys bypass

I HAVE spent over half a century trying to do my bit for the community in which I live, Dinas Powys.

I am at present a member of Dinas Powys Community Council and the Bypass Steering Group and I write as both a councillor and an individual.

During this time, I have rarely been more shocked than when reading that the Vale Council cabinet has unilaterally decided to select a single route for the hard-fought-for Dinas Powys bypass.

We are told there will be a public consultation lasting 12 weeks. What's the point when they've already made their decision from a semi-complete draft report? In my book, that is democracy gone haywire.

This is despite an undertaking the Vale Cabinet made to Dinas Powys Community Council in April of last year.

The community council had unanimously asked the Vale to 'widen the scope' of the Barry end to ensure the best route was selected. This was agreed, and has been worked on by Arcadis.

It would appear that this decision is not even a recommendation of the officers or their consultants. It is the desire of a very few members without any substantive explanation.

Without full cost and value assessments, comparisons cannot be made. The Vale Council has virtually ripped up the rule book for the Welsh Government study to do their own thing.

What happens if the Assembly do not agree with this proposal, for any one of several glaring reasons? We could be left with nothing.

Our only chance now is to turn up in droves at the Stage 2 Public Consultation and voice our views there and in writing.

When the Stage 1 Consultation was held, the overwhelming public support for any bypass resulted in its inclusion when none was originally included.

Now, after 90-odd years of asking, and almost three years of lobbying, it has been proven that a bypass is the main solution to traffic problems through Dinas Powys. The least we can do is make sure it follows the best route.

No doubt, a completed Arcadis report would have delivered that solution rather than the precipitous action which has happened. The cabinet changed their undertaking to the Community Council once.

Surely they can recognise the error of their ways and allow a choice of selection to go forward to the end of Stage 2, thus proving that democracy is alive and well?

Edward Jenkins BEM, Dinas Powys.

An idea to help climate change in Cowbridge?

AFTER recently learning more about climate change, I have had the idea for a Cowbridge car free day.

I realise that could be difficult in a small town like Cowbridge, so maybe we could try a car free afternoon?

How about we close the High Street for three hours to non-essential traffic and encourage everyone to walk home from school?

Please can you bring this to the attention of the Mayor?

Merryn Russell (aged eight), Llanblethian

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

New houses must be 'sustainable'

I AM sure I am not the only person to note that the new housing estate being built outside Cowbridge and the other new housing which is infilling green spaces to Cardiff, is being constructed with little thought to sustainability other than current building regulation; no solar panels, water capture, wind turbines etc.

It is quite within our technology to make houses carbon neutral or even net generators and the installation costs are lowest and benefit highest at the point of build.

The policy of not putting local shops in (to protect town shop business) will mean more vehicle journeys.

Housing is built to last for potentially hundreds of years, and with an awakening to the climatic and environmental impact of increasing carbon dioxide concentrations due to deforestation and relentless fossil fuel use, coupled with future energy demand growth (e.g. projected 97 per cent growth in world electricity demand 2009 to 2035) has led to general scientific agreement that we are heading rapidly in the wrong direction.

Even if you are the most ardent denier that the science of climate change is not proven (hottest Easter this year on record), the cost advantages over the lifetime of a house as well as the rapid growth of new industries are attractive, alongside leaving fossil fuels in the ground, which future generations will need for intensive farming.

I am not planning to glue myself to the new show homes, but I am asking how this might be changed?

I would encourage you to contact local MPs, councils and planning authorities.

Dale Gooding, Cowbridge.

Car parking in the Vale

TWO points for Miles Punter, director of housing and environment, to consider on the car parking in the Vale:

If it's not being proposed as a cash cow, what is the point of doing it?

As for his statement: "There is no such thing as free car parking", he should look out of his window at the Civic Offices: there is a very big free park. Are workers in there going to pay the same as Barry Island workers are expected to pay?

I would be delighted if council workers had to pay a yearly fee for a space as others have to.

A little bit one sided, if you ask me.

David Arnell Smith, Rhoose.

Taxpayers' Alliance not what you think

WHILE I have no wish to defend the high salaries of senior Vale Council officials, nor the inefficiency of the council, I feel I must point out that the Taxpayers' Alliance (GEM Letters, April 18) isn't some worthy body defending the likes of you and me.

It is an economically extreme right-wing libertarian pressure group which is secretive about its funding, and whose aim, I believe, is to allow the ultra-rich to pay even less tax than they do already by undermining the public's faith in the public sector.

Davy Cartwright, Llantwit Major.

Enfys Craft Fair

ENFYS Craft Fair will take place on Saturday, May 5 at the St Ffransis Millennium Hall, Park Road, Barry between 10am and 4pm with free admission.

Enfys has over 16 stallholders with an amazing range of colourful, glittering crafts: items made from different fabrics, jewellery made from silver and other gems, cards, photographic items, beautiful wooden gifts made by Reg (who can repair parts of your wooden furniture). There is so much to see, do come along.

Enjoy the delights from Ann's Kitchen all day. If you haven't already had breakfast, buns can be had with fried eggs and bacon and a different menu suitable for lunch.

Our May charity will be the St John's Alzheimer's Support in Barry Island at Crossroads Day Centre, Breaksea Drive.

For more information call Reg on 01446 792149 or Patricia on 01656 880784.

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL MAY 1)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20-25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
25 Thur	11.12	8.5	23.34	8.3
26 Fri	11.58	7.8	-------	----
27 Sat	00.29	7.5	12.59	7.3
28 Sun	01.47	7.3	14.33	7.2
29 Mon	03.14	7.4	15.57	7.6
30 Tues	04.22	7.8	16.54	8.1
01 Wed	05.14	8.3	17.39	8.4
02 Thurs	05.54	8.7	18.16	8.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Cowbridge couple offer 'gift of time' to grieving parents

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We wanted to give something back to Tŷ Hafan that will help other families at a very sad time. Being given the option of using a 'CuddleBlanket' so that families have the chance to say goodbye to their child how they want to and have as much time as they need is an incredible gift and something we never got to do," said Alun Williams.

Vikki added: "Every time we come into Tŷ Hafan it's amazing — the staff at the hospice have provided so much support for us as a family. Our three children have grown up here too, and have had the pleasure of meeting other children in similar situations which has helped them enormously.

"We can't thank our friends, family and the community enough for their dedication in helping us raise the money to comfort bereaved families and to keep Elis' memory alive. It would've been Elis' 10th birthday last October, so we wanted to do something special."

Tracy Jones, head of community service and partnerships at Tŷ Hafan, said: "When a parent loses a child, those final moments are more precious than anything. Unfortunately, the nature of the children's conditions cared for at the hospice often means that they die without any warning signs, and the parents are rarely prepared to say goodbye.

"Providing families at the hospice and at their homes with the opportunity to spend just a few more moments with their child is priceless. Continuing bonds is an essential part of the bereavement process, so the idea that the families can hand the heart to their child and have that everlasting memory is so significant. We can't begin to think what difference these items will make to families and how treasured they will be, and it's beautiful that they're being used in memory of Elis."

Vikki added: "We are grateful to the local community and businesses that took part in our fundraising challenges. We're looking to continue fundraising for Tŷ Hafan to set new goals and help more bereaved families in any way we can."

Mayor attends Easter-themed party at opticians

THE Mayor of Cowbridge joined residents for an Easter party to celebrate the first anniversary of the town's Specsavers store.

Cllr Terry Williams visited the High Street opticians for a day filled with Easter fun.

He was on hand to draw a raffle of everyone who purchased frames in March, with the lucky winner receiving the cost of their glasses back.

Mr Williams was later given the chance to see the store's state-of-the-art facilities, such as its £40,000 optical coherence tomography (OCT) machine. The OCT machine is a hospital-grade device that develops a 3D scan of a patient's eye and can improve early detection of conditions such as glaucoma.

The Easter party also marked the one-year anniversary of the store, which was opened by locals Hannah Davies and Adam Thomas with a £300,000 investment. Since then, the store has brought in a new director, Andrew Moss.

Mr Moss said: "As a locally-owned business, engaging with the community is paramount to everything we do, so we're glad that we were able to have this celebration as a 'thank you' to our customers, who have supported us from day one.

"Everyone really got into the community spirit and we are thankful to Mr Williams for his willingness to join in the fun."

Collin the donkey leads procession around Llandow

COLLIN the donkey led the procession to Holy Trinity Church in Llandow village, near Cowbridge on Palm Sunday.

The Vicar, Rev Alan Kettle, blessed palms and the group joined others in the church for the Holy Week event.

AK

Merched y Wawr Y Bont-faen

AT the April meeting of Merched y Wawr Y Bont-Faen, members had the pleasure of welcoming Tweli Griffiths, a well respected reporter and broadcaster on current affairs.

However, when he spoke to us a couple of years ago about his adventures as a world-wide reporter, we realised that he also entertains audiences as a conjurer, and invited him for a return visit to work his magic – and were we entertained!

He talked about world-renowned magicians who had Welsh connections at the same time he was performing tricks. Some of the members helped when asked to do so, and he made everything look so easy. Needless to say, we have no idea how to perform any of the tricks he showed. Plenty of laughter and wonder – a real tonic.

CAWSOM noson ddifyr iawn yng nghwmni Tweli Griffiths yn ein cyfarfod diwethaf. Siaradodd am bobl sydd â chysylltiadau Cymreig yn y byd Hud a Lledrith ac ar yr un pryd fe ddefnyddiai ei ddwylo medrus i weithio'i driciau.

Ar ei gais, fe gafodd 'help' gan nifer o'r aelodau yn eu tro a gwnâi i'r cyfan edrych a theimlo mor rhwydd. Consuriwr go iawn ac wrth gwrs, does gennym ni ddim syniad sut oedd e'n cyflawni'r triciau. Noson hwyliog iawn gyda digonedd o chwerthin a rhyfeddu – tonic yn wir.

MH

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LOCAL VALE LAW FIRM WINS TOP UK AWARD
'SUCCESS STARTS WITH A GREAT TEAM'

Catherine Hartland & Alexandra Jenkins

Local Barry Law firm attended the prestigious Modern Law Awards in Manchester on Thursday 31January 2019 and were the only law firm from Wales to reach the finals, the only law firm to be finalists in more than 2 awards, and the only law firm to come away with three awards.

Catherine Hartland won Managing Partner of the Year UK

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Llantwit Major pupils are aiming to get more active

DURING the last two weeks pupils at Ysgol Dewi Sant have been making a big effort to be more active.

This has been part of The Big Pedal initiative organised by the school and Sustrans with the focus on cycling, walking, skateboarding or riding a scooter to school.

The Healthy Schools' leader Rebecca Gatt said: "The Healthy Schools' committee have been keeping a tally and the results are fantastic – during the fortnight there were 1,457 journeys on foot, skateboard, scooter or bike and that equates to 47.9 per cent of the pupils being more active."

In order to celebrate their achievements and to raise funds for the school and for Sustrans, the committee also organised sponsored laps of the playground dressed as superheroes. As you can see a great time was had by all! The hope now is that these good habits will continue and there will be fewer car journeys during the summer term.

Tim and Chris Colston with their Welsh knitted dolls.

Knitting and nattering at WI

ONCE a month Boverton WI hold a Knit and Natter afternoon.

Not a lot of knitting, more natter! Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided but we also each put a pound into a pot for a 'tea swindle'. This year it was decided to donate it to Tim and Chris Colston who are going to climb Kilimanjaro in June, in aid of Velindre and Marie Curie.

They came to collect a cheque and have tea and cake, kindly made by Anne Beckwith. Tim explained that it would take them six days to complete. They were given two small knitted Welsh dolls to pin to their rucksacks and promptly named them Myfannwy and Cerys. We wished them good luck and look forward to hearing all about it when they return.

PL

Scout leader pays a visit to Rotary Club

IAN Jones, leader of Llantwit Major Scouts, visited the local Rotary Club at their meeting in West House Hotel last week.

Ian told the meeting that he became involved with Scouting some years ago when he tried to enrol his son into the organisation. He was told there was a waiting list but if he could give them an hour a week of his time, they could start another Cub group immediately and be able to take his son.

There began a long and very successful association with the Scouting movement in Llantwit Major, which Ian now heads. The commitment currently consumes far more than an hour a week of his time as they have four sections: Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers up to the age of 18.

Working closely with Barry Scouts, they offer young people a wide range of activities including camping, expeditions, the opportunity to develop leadership skills and for older Scouts, helping to run meetings for younger sections. In recent years, with the help of many volunteers, the local organisation has grown from fewer than 10 members to a current figure of 47 with a waiting list of over 70.

Ian said that the Scout hut off Colhugh Street is in need of repair and upgrading and it also needs to have handicapped access provided, so that the building can be used for more activities.

President elect Anthony Pugh thanked Ian for a fascinating talk and congratulated him on the phenomenal success of Scouting in Llantwit Major.

The opportunities offered to young people locally was inspiring and something that the community should be proud of and support.

On behalf of the Rotary Club, he presented Ian Jones with a cheque for £500 towards the cost of refurbishing their Scout hut. Anthony Pugh also confirmed that following the recent flood disaster in southern Africa caused by cyclone Idai, a cheque for £500 would also be sent to the Rotary organisation in Malawi to help with relief work.

JR

Comfy chairs at latest male voice choir concert

COWBRIDGE Male Voice Choir performed a concert, for their sponsors The Place for Homes, last week.

The venue was The Place for Homes furniture store in Llandow. For the audience it was probably the most comfortable concert they had ever attended as full use was made of the armchairs, sofas and swivel chairs in the showroom. For the choir it was a new experience to perform a concert at such a venue.

In between the choir sets their music team of Rhiannon Williams and Sandra Williams performed two piano duets; there were medleys of Beatles music and the selection very well received by the audience.

The evening ended with a raffle with all prizes donated by The Place for Homes. The concert, which was held in aid of Crohn's and Colitis UK, raised over £1,200.

Cowbridge Male Voice Choir's next concert in aid of Maggie's will be held at Bethel Baptist Church, Pontyclun on May 11, starting at 7.30pm; tickets £10 are available from Barnes Dry Cleaners Cowbridge, Bob Jenkins 01443 237890 or any choir member.

Maggie's provides free support to people with cancer and their family and friends, following the ideas about cancer care originally laid out by Maggie Keswick Jencks.

Built in the grounds of NHS hospitals, Maggie's Centres have professional staff on hand to offer the support people need: practical advice about benefits and eating well, emotional support, and places where you can simply sit quietly with a cup of tea.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

News and views from Nancy Davidge, Tynewydd, Llangan. 01656 860303.

THE Easter service which took place at St Mary Hill Church was attended by locals and visitors.

St Canna's, Llangan

ON Sunday, April 28 an All Age worship service will take place at 11.15am. Everyone is assured of a warm welcome.

Saron Chapel, Treoes

A SERVICE will take place at Saron on Sunday, April 28 at 3pm conducted by Steven Pare.

A sincere thank you must go to Mrs Gillham, who supervised the cemetery grass cutting and to all the other tasks she and her husband Charles carried out during the chapel restoration work; and their dedication to Saron through all the years they have been living in Treoes.

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Wick YFC celebrate 83 years in style!

WICK YFC celebrated 83 years at its annual dinner dance, courtesy of the Davies family of Rosedew Farm on Saturday.

The theme this year was a night at the races with fellow clubs and members dressing in their finery. The Davies family certainly did not disappoint, delivering the most exquisite menu, much to the delight of the guests with the sorbet provided by Cowbridge's Fablas Ice Cream Parlour.

The club's president, John Lougher, addressed the guests before passing to chairman Alex Edwards and continuing with the awards ceremony.

Natalie Evans and Alisha Major received the Senior and Junior President's Cups with Luke Morgan taking the Chairman's Award for their exemplary performances for the club throughout the year.

Chairman Alex was awarded the much coveted Boys Cup, as well as the Senior Stock Judging Cup. Alex has had an incredible year both as a competitor and as chairman. With his composed demeanour, he has provided enormous support for the junior members, helping to strengthen Club's core and ensure stability and growth for the future.

This is Alex's final year as a member, having been with us for well over a decade and achieved enormous success for the Club. No one will forget his brilliant efforts singing and dancing at this year's entertainment fest, gaining much praise from the judging panel.

Vice-chair Tori Powell received the Girl's Cup, having worked hard behind the scenes. Her efforts have not gone unnoticed.

Tori also played a key role at this year's entertainments, playing the Grandma with much flair and panache. It is also Tori's last year, having joined two years ago. We wish her the very best for her future endeavours.

Hollie Jones received this year's Junior Stock Judging Cup. In only her fourth year at the club, Hollie, a pupil at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd, has proved an enormous asset to us as an absolute multi-talented, all-rounder. Hollie co-choreographed both the Eisteddfod and entertainments dance routines, as well as receiving recognition for her singing, dancing, cooking, public speaking and having competed against World Champions at last year's Royal Welsh Show in Wool Handling. Hollie certainly has a very promising future within the YFC movement.

Lauren James took the Individual Drama Award, impressing enormously at this year's entertainment's festival and winning the coveted 'County's under 14's Most Promising Artist' as well as gaining notoriety in public speaking competitions. We watch with interest as Lauren is part of the Revolutionise Dance team at this year's Dance World Cup in Portugal.

The infamous Dragon Award was given to Lucy Roberts, Hollie Jones, Lauren James, Rhianna Jones and Bel Roberts for their amazing dance routines at this year's festival. Lucy also retained the Attendance Cup. Again in her fourth year, Lucy is a key member having her most successful year to date representing county twice at Wales level for Recitation and Public Speaking, recently achieving a remarkable 93 per cent at the Wales Finals in Builth Wells.

She was also part of the successful dance group at this year's Wales Eisteddfod finals. May we wish Lucy the very best of luck as she completes her GCSEs at Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

Chairman Alex Edwards receives his award from Mr John Lougher.

Our vice-president, Hywel Evans, a keen thespian himself, then gave a short presentation to John Lougher, much to the delight of the guests before DJ James Bramhall took to the stage providing the entertainment, keeping the guests on the dance floor until the very early hours. A great night was had by all.

To learn more about becoming a member of Wick YFC, please see our website on www.wickyfc.com or join us on social media. Our door is always open for anyone between the ages of 10–26 years old.

Report by Alisha Major

Rotary Club and Soroptimists gear up for busy season

Pictured (from left to right) Barry Rotary president Jill Osborne, secretary Ann Harrhy, Barry & Vale Soroptimist president Mary Tonabene, Barry Rotarian Judith Hunt and Soroptimist Jackie Memory (seated).

EIGHT members of the Barry and District Soroptimists were among the guests at a recent dinner meeting of the Rotary Club of Barry, CAVC's Glamorgan Suite on Colcot Road.

During the evening, Barry Rotary Club member Judith Hunt presented the Soroptimists with used postage stamps, on behalf of the Rotary Club, which will be used to support Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Rotary Club of Barry will be supporting the 10th Barry Brownies and Rainbows on Sunday, April 28 at 3pm at Pebbly Beach on The Knap with their litter picking afternoon to improve our local environment.

Soroptimists will be having a stall at the Rotary Club's charity duck race and summer fete in the Knap Gardens on Saturday, July 20 and full details of the event will be announced after Easter.

For further information on Rotary Club of Barry, come and chat to us at the litter picking event at The Knap on April 28 or see the Rotary Club of Barry's Facebook page. For further information on Soroptimists, go to *sigbi.org/barryanddistrict.*

JO

A heartfelt letter to the Sandville

GWYNNETH Poacher, the driving force behind the Sandville Self-help Centre, recognised the need for a hydrotherapy pool some years ago, and supporters of the centre are well aware of the benefits it can bring.

However, it doesn't do any harm to be reminded of how important a pool such as this can be, so we are delighted to publish a letter to the Sandville, by Mrs Mary Stutt.

My thanks to the Sandville

My husband, a retired professor, Nigel Stott, a former professor of general practice in the Cardiff Medical School, became unwell in 2008 with viral myocarditis and suffered a catastrophic stroke.

He was unable to walk, speak or eat, and needed a peg in his stomach for liquid feeds.

He has enjoyed weekly hydrotherapy sessions at Sandville Self Help Centre and supported, can swim on his back, with co-ordinated arms and legs.

The water is body temperature and is suitable for the disabled, as the warmth enables muscle control, and relaxation. I have also had two hip replacements recently and recovered quickly because of the pool.

We love our visits.

Mary Stutt.

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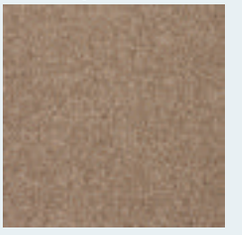

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Indoor sale

WANT to find a bargain? Visit the Barry Indoor Car Boot Sale on Saturday, April 27 at the St Francis Millennium Centre on Park Road in Barry.

The event is free for buyers and runs between 9.30am-11.30am. Tea and coffee will be available with donations going to Barry Dock RNLI. Search Facebook 'Barry Indoor Car Boot Sale' for further information.

Lunchtime concert

MUSIC at Lunchtime concerts at All Saints Penarth continues next Monday, April 29 at 1pm, with a return visit by pianist Conal Bembridge-Sayers, who will provide a programme of music by Mendelssohn, Joseph Parry, Rhian Samuel and Morfydd Llwyn Owen.

Entry is free with donations invited to a retiring collection in aid of the church and a charity of the performer's choice. Doors open at 12.30pm with refreshments served on the Gallery. More information at www.allsaintspenarth.org.uk.

Neighbourhood Watch AGM

THE Vale of Glamorgan Neighbourhood Watch Association is holding its AGM on Wednesday, May 8 at 6pm in the Emergency Services Centre on Port Road West in Barry.

A spokesperson said: "We are very privileged this year to have John Hayward-Cripps, the CEO of the national Neighbourhood Watch network, as our keynote speaker. All co-ordinators and members are invited. Please put the date in your diary now."

Quilters

GLAMORGAN quilters are holding a workshop on May 10, delivered by famous quilter, Sandie Lush.

If you want to learn more about quilting with a practical workshop, we have two spaces remaining at the workshop to be held at Ystradowen village hall. For more information, contact salg96@btinternet.com.

Beaches enjoy the record-breaking Easter weather

IMAGES by ANDY WICKS

PEOPLE flocked to the Vale's beaches this Easter to enjoy the record temperatures.

Local photographer Andy Wicks took these images at Llantwit Major beach on Easter Saturday.

Among those enjoying the sizzling sunshine were the Vale Coastal Cleanup Group which carried out a litter pick. More information on the group is available on Facebook.

Mayor looks back over a rewarding year in office

by Llantwit Major Mayor, Cllr David Ellis

THIS will be my last column as Llantwit Major Town Mayor because a new mayor will be elected on May 9; I wish him or her every success in their term of office.

It has been a very busy but enjoyable last 12 months, with many very successful and interesting events.

At my inauguration last May, I outlined a number of objectives I wished to promote during the year based on 'making Llantwit Major a safer, more prosperous and a more sustainable town in which to live'. I hope we have made some progress towards achieving this goal.

Over the last year, I have also had the honour to represent the town at a number of functions across the Vale and to visit a wide range of organisations.

I would like to thank the town hall staff, all my fellow councillors, especially deputy mayor Bob Gant and all those events, particularly my wife and consort, for all the support and assistance they have given me throughout the year.

One of the most inspiring occasions recently was the Citizen of the Year awards evening on April 6, when residents who have made a very special contribution to our town were recognised. The Llantonian Hall was packed with recipients, relatives and sponsors. Many congratulations to all the winners.

Many thanks also to all those who participated in my final event for the year, the silent auction and coffee morning on April 13. More than £1,000 was raised for my three chosen charities: Headlines, Age Connects and St Illtud's Church, bringing the total for the year to around £5,000 – an excellent achievement.

Finally, do visit the area around the Llantonian Hall. The new sports pavilion is now almost finished and the bowling green is looking immaculate. The tennis courts have been completely renovated in Wimbledon colours and the children's playground, with its new musical equipment, is proving very popular.

Llantwit Major is indeed a great place to live!

Mike's marathon is a 'thank you' to cancer researchers

THE son of a man who lives in Sully is returning to the UK to take part in the London Marathon and raise funds for Prostate Cancer Research.

Mike Daughton (49) is keen to thank researchers who have helped his father Peter, who suffers from the disease. Peter (77) a retired teacher, told The GEM: "Mike lives in Sydney, but is coming over specifically to take part in the London Marathon on Sunday, April 28.

"In spite of being asthmatic, he started running a few years ago in his mid-40s with the ambition of running to raise money for Prostate Cancer Research. He wants to show the family's gratitude for the drugs that have helped me survive for the last 17 years.

"These include hormone tablets and injections, radiotherapy, chemotherapy and a trial drug for the last four years. The hope is that the research will continue and more men will benefit in the future."

So far Mike has raised more than £2,100. If people want to make a donation they should search for Mike Daughton at *JustGiving.com*. Peter added: "I would like to thank the wonderful doctors, nurse, phlebotomists and scan operators at Velindre Hospital for all their help."

Mike Daughton with his father Peter.

The Vale Council introduces new school admissions policy

THE way the Vale Council decides which children get places in the most oversubscribed secondary schools is changing.

The authority is bringing in a new policy despite some opposition from parents.

Under the new rules, children who live in a school's catchment area will have priority when secondaries are oversubscribed.

At the moment, secondary school places are allocated to children who go to specific primary schools – known as feeder schools – but this is being removed as a way of selecting pupils at oversubscribed secondaries.

The council says this change will mean children who move into the area at a late stage "are not unduly disadvantaged".

The Vale Cabinet approved the plans on April 15 despite 198 parents opposing the move; 105 parents told a consultation they were in favour of the change. The parents of 9,820 children were consulted by the council.

Parents who voiced objections feared children affected by the proposal will not be able to attend a secondary school along with their friends from a feeder primary school.

The council said the proposed changes will not mean that children living outside a secondary school's catchment area will not be able to apply for a place. It says 90 per cent of parents on average each year receive the offer of a place at their first choice of school.

A council report says: "Transferring to secondary school is a significant event in a child's life and schools are very experienced in offering pupils support as part of this process.

"Part of this transition is the opportunity to make new friends and have different experiences. Transition from primary to secondary often means new friendship groups are formed, even if attending a secondary school with a high number of peers from their primary school.

"Support and resources would continue to be offered by school and council transition support staff in order to assist in this process."

The council also says the admission arrangements would prioritise those with a sibling already at the secondary school of their choice higher than is the case currently.

Matt Discombe, Local democracy reporter

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Chance to get involved in third sector project

GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) has received funding from the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board for a one-year project to map the community groups, organisations and activities/services that are in the western Vale.

The project aims to support any emerging health and wellbeing networks and to organise an event where local groups and services can come together to meet and discuss future options.

This event could potentially help any small community group gain information about the activities/services in their local area and assist them to develop partnerships with local providers.

If you would like to get involved or can offer any information about community groups or organisations in the western Vale please contact Lani Tucker (pictured), Third Sector Locality Officer, Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS); 01446 741706; E-mail: *mapping@gvs.wales,* Website: *www.gvs.wales.*

Royal British Legion's invite to commemoration event

A SHORT service and wreath and cross laying to commemorate the 75th anniversaries of D-Day, Arnhem, Monte Cassino and Kohima will take place on Sunday, June 9, at 2pm at the Cenotaph, Gladstone Road, Barry.

Wreaths and crosses are available to reserve by ringing Teresa on 07340 220904. Commemorative D-Day items are limited, so reservation is recommended.

Other wreaths and crosses will also be available on the day from the RBL gazebo. All proceeds from wreaths and crosses will go to the Annual Poppy Appeal.

Everyone is welcome. There will be some chairs available, and people can bring their own.

The Royal British Legion would like to know if any Veterans from these campaigns are planning to attend.

Please call Teresa on 07340 220904 to reserve a VIP place at the Cenotaph.

Local author launches new book on his ancestor

LOCAL author Brian C Luxton is best known for his three volumes on the subject of Old Barry in photographs.

He has also had work published in Stewart William's Glamorgan Historian, *Morgannwg, the Journal of Glamorgan History*, and was a contributor to the *Barry Centenary Book* (1984).

In 1984, he established the Luxton Family History Society which has an international membership and produces a journal, Time-Link, which updates members on the latest research.

His new book *My Father's People* is the culmination of more than half a century's research on his own branch of the family and he has made a diverse use of documentary information supplemented with newspaper reports and oral memories.

In his book, the author tells of his search for his Luxton ancestors. The book details his methods of research and there is local interest when he writes about his family in Barry. In 1894, work began on the second dock and John Spickett of Rock House, Cadoxton, offered Brian's grandfather a sovereign a week, which he accepted as it was a 25 per cent pay increase.

Burt Luxton, the author's father, began his apprenticeship as a fitter/turner in Barry Graving Dock in 1930. As a skilled dock worker he was in a reserve occupation when war was declared in 1939 and Burt spent the war years busily employed repairing war damaged ships.

On the evening of July 1, 1940, the first air raid on Barry, a bomb was dropped in Coldbrook Road. Brian's father, who had gone out of the shelter "to watch the fireworks" was flung into the garage wall.

'My Father's People' can be purchased on Amazon for £39.99 or from the author for £30 plus postage; email *b.luxton@yahoo.co.uk.* The book is also available at Aldon Grisdale, Copy It, 196 Holton Road, Barry.

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Can you offer a 'retirement home' for Tilly?

STAFF at Dogs Trust Bridgend are appealing for a home for their oldest resident, who is the human equivalent of 98 years old.

Taking the accolade is Tilly who, at 14 years old, found herself in the care of the Pen-y-Fai rehoming centre in February after her owners were no longer able to care for her. She is currently receiving lots of love and care in a foster home through the charity's 'Home From Home' scheme but would love a home to call her own.

Well above the four-year-old average for a dog in Dogs Trust's care, Tilly is now keeping her paws crossed to find a new home for her retirement years. But staff say the terrier still has a lot of love to give and is a sweet older lady.

Angela Wetherall, Dogs Trust Bridgend's manager, said: "It's especially sad when older dogs come to us but Tilly really deserves to find her special someone. Sometimes older dogs spend a longer time with us than their younger counterparts, but there are so many advantages to having an older dog.

"They tend to need less exercise and most, like Tilly, are used to living in a home. With age on their side their personality is already shaped.

"Tilly is friendly with everyone she meets. She loves pottering about on walks and carrying her toys around the garden. She would like to be the only pet in the home and could be left alone for a short time once she has settled in. We would like to hear from potential new owners who can offer Tilly a cosy bed where she can put her paws up and enjoy her retirement."

The rehoming centre often gets older dogs in their care and is currently home to six mature dogs who are over the age of eight. They are keen to encourage people to consider the advantages of owning an older dog, which include being house-trained, and not having those mischievous puppy behaviours!

Dogs Trust has lots of information and support available for anyone thinking of adopting an older dog at www.dogstrust.org.uk/help-advice/factsheets-downloads. If you think Tilly is your perfect canine companion, please call 01656 338 745 to find out more.

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

'Welsh businesses need more help on rate relief'

LOCAL MP Alun Cairns has written to traders in the Vale to say he is disappointed the Welsh business rate relief scheme falls short of that offered in England and that he will continue to challenge the Welsh Government on it.

Mr Cairns claims the Welsh Government's increase in business rates for the financial year 2019/20 will cost many traders thousands of pounds more than their counterparts in England.

He says figures show that under this year's rate relief schemes, a business with a rateable value of £12,000 will pay at least £3,260 more in Wales than in England.

The Welsh Government told The GEM this week that its retail rates relief scheme would help 15,000 businesses in the financial year 2019-20.

Mr Cairns said he wants the Welsh Government to reduce the multiplier it uses to calculate rates and to implement the same rate relief as England.

He said that this year, the Welsh Government had increased the multiplier from 0.514 last year to 0.526. In contrast, the UK Government uses a figure of 0.48 for small businesses, which means that the baseline calculation of business rates is lower in England than in Wales before any rate reductions are taken into consideration.

The Welsh Government has introduced a discretionary business rate relief scheme which provides £2,500 of relief for businesses with a rateable value between £9,100 and £50,000. Those with a rateable value under £9,100 will not pay anything.

Under the UK Government's rates relief scheme, businesses with a rateable value over £12,000 and up to £50,000 will receive at least a third cut in their rates. Those with a rateable value under £12,000 are exempt from paying rates.

Mr Cairns said Welsh Government has been given the funding by Westminster to implement the same rate relief in Wales as in England

He said: "I am incredibly disappointed that the Welsh Government is setting business rates at a higher level than in England, meaning Welsh traders are worse off.

"This is even before we factor in their failure to match the level of rate relief offered by the UK Government to traders in England, despite receiving the funding to do so. The Welsh Labour Government continue to impose the most expensive business rates anywhere in Great Britain, leaving many businesses in Wales thousands of pounds worse off."

A Welsh Government spokeswoman said it was committed to providing support for small and medium sized Welsh businesses.

She said: "The tax-base in Wales is different to that in England and our rates and relief system should reflect the unique circumstances of Wales.

"We are committed to supporting businesses in Wales. We have provided an extra £23.6m of support through the high street and retail rates relief scheme to help around 15,000 small and medium-sized retail businesses pay their rates bills in 2019-20.

"This is in addition to the £210m we provide every year to support businesses and other ratepayers with their non-domestic rates bills."

She emphasised: "More than three-quarters of ratepayers in Wales receive support and more than half of businesses pay no rates at all."

TC

Colleagues honour south Wales GP

DR Hasmukh Shah is a fundraising board member of the Vale for Africa charity, and a GP working in south Wales who was awarded the British Empire Medal from the Queen at her birthday honour's list in June 2018.

In acknowledgement of the award, Dr Shah was invited to London by the Royal College of General Practitioners to be honoured at an Acclamation Dinner last month, where he was congratulated by the president of the Royal College of General Practitioners, Professor Mayur Lakhani CBE and his fellow GPs for services to the community and for his charitable work.

While thanking his colleagues and the college, Dr Shah said it was a rare honour to be acclaimed by his peers and resolved to dedicate himself to the community and charitable work.

The Royal College of General Practitioners represents 52,000 GPs across the whole of the United Kingdom.

Council considers cuts to school bus services

PLANS to cut funding to 15 school bus services in the Vale will be put before the public.

A consultation has been launched on withdrawing funding for the Vale's fare-paying school bus services as the council plans spending cuts.

The bus services, which are used by about 400 pupils, mainly serve schools in Barry and Penarth, with a few serving rural areas of the Vale.

The Vale Council says free school transport will still be provided to pupils who live far enough away from their school to be entitled to it.

But there are more than 300 pupils who are not entitled to free transport who pay to use the fare-paying services and would have to find another way to get to school if the routes are withdrawn.

Operators would be able to run the bus routes on a commercial basis – but they have indicated there could be a rise in fares.

The services that would be affected are:

351 – St Athan Primary School

P122 – Llangan Primary School

P125 – Ysgol Sant Curig & Ysgol Sant Baruc

P132 – Ysgol Pen Y Garth

P133 – St Josephs R/C Primary School

P135 – St Andrews Major C/W Primary School

P138 – St Illtyd Primary School

P139 – Ysgol Pen Y Garth

P97 – Llansannor C/W Primary School

S10 – Pencoedtre & Whitmore High School / Ysgol Bro Morgannwg

S14 – Pencoedtre & Whitmore High School

S2 – Whitmore High School & Ysgol Bro Morgannwg

S49 – St Richard Gwyn R/C Secondary Schoool

S51 – St Richard Gwyn R/C Secondary School

S53 – St Richard Gwyn R/C Secondary School

The Welsh Government says free school transport has to be offered to primary pupils who live two miles or more from their local school and secondary pupils who live three miles or more from their catchment area school.

The Vale Council says the proposed funding cuts would not affect pupils eligible for free transport services, or children with additional learning needs who are eligible for free transport.

A statement on the council's website says: "The Vale Council will continue to provide statutory free school transport to those pupils who qualify on distance/unavailable walking route grounds who are currently allocated to a fare-paying school transport service.

"If the fare-paying element is removed it may mean pupils who are eligible for free school transport will be collected in smaller vehicles."

Surveys taken in the 2017-18 academic year showed 324 pupils who do not qualify for free transport pay to use these fare-paying school services, while another 81 pupils have been given passes to use these buses free of charge as they do qualify for free school transport.

The surveys showed 55 per cent of the bus service 724's available seats are used.

Talks between the council and the current operators have identified just three services out of the 15 which could be commercially viable with fare increases.

Three services were considered potentially viable – the S10 for Pencoedtre High School, Whitmore High School and Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, the S14 for Pencoedtre High School and Whitmore High School and the S49 for St Richard Gwyn RC High School.

Last year the council subsidised fare paying school transport services by more than £180,000.

If the funding for these services is withdrawn, £57,000 of the money saved would go towards providing free transport to eligible pupils who used them.

The council is looking to cut £3.7m across its service areas in 2019-20.

If the council goes ahead with the plans the funding for these services would be withdrawn from July 31 – after a re-tendering of all school services in April and May.

A consultation will run on the council's website until May 28.

Matt Discombe
Local democracy reporter

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (B4270 LLANTWIT MAJOR ROAD Y BONT-FAEN) (CYFYNGIAD CYFLYMDER 30 MYA) (DROS DRO) 2019

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14(1) Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill yn bwriadu gwneud Gorchymyn mewn dim llai na 7 diwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn i wneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod:

ATODLEN 1

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ATODLEN 2

Location: Y rhan o'r B4270 Llantwit Major Road o'r gyffordd â Cross Inn i'r gyffordd â Geraint's Way.

Reason: Mae'r cyfyngiad yn cael ei weithredu i alluogi gosodiad ffordd newydd a gwaith ar gyffordd.

Duration: O 9.00am ddydd Mawrth 7 Mai 2019 am hyd at 18 mis.

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THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (B4270 LLANTWIT MAJOR ROAD COWBRIDGE) (30MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2019

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order, the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour between the locations specified in Schedule 2 below:

SCHEDULE 2

Location: The section of B4270 Llantwit Major Road from the junction with the Cross Inn to the junction at Geraint's Way.

Reason: The restriction is being implemented to allow new road layout and junction works to take place.

Duration: From 9.00am on Tuesday 7th May 2019 for a maximum period of 18 months.

Dated this 25th day of April 2019
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
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Tango in the night for WI members

THE sights, tastes and sounds of Argentina were brought nearer to home this month when the public affairs committee of Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes held an evening to explore some of the country's history and customs.

Members met in Cefn Cribbw and Sian Garfield, who introduced the evening, said that they were going to experience Argentina through "Three Ts' – Taste, Talk and Tango!"

The Taste was provided by Mr Andrew Norton from Majestic Wines, who provided five wines and explained about grape varieties and the viniculture involved in producing good quality wines.

The Talk was given by Megan Powell-Williams who gave a very interesting talk about the Welsh link with Patagonia both past and present. She gave an insight into what it is like to live in a community where the two languages are Welsh and Spanish.

The Tango was demonstrated by Chris and Alison of Urban Tango of Swansea. They encouraged everyone to take part in learning the basics of the dance and by the end of the evening some members would no doubt have scored a 10 from all the judges on Strictly!

Refreshments were delicious Argentinian empanadas. Everyone got into the spirit of the evening and there was a lot of fun and laughter.

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Staff and cadets ready to begin the day. Photo by Sqn Ldr Jeremiah.

Cadets help at South Wales Aviation Museum opening

ON April 20, the South Wales Aviation Museum opened on the Picketston site, formerly part of RAF St Athan.

Thanks to the hard work of Flt Sgt Richard Peckham, RAFAC cadets from five squadrons, Kenfig Hill, Bridgend, Llwchr, Port Talbot and Pencoed attended and assisted directing traffic and car parking.

Many of the visitors, trustees and volunteers of the museum praised the cadets for their work and courtesy during the day, which proved to be one of the hottest this year.

Thanks also go to the adult staff from the squadrons who attended with the cadets, Squadron Leader Lyn Jeremiah RAFAC, Flying Officer Sian Gebel RAFAC, Flight Sergeant Adam Burman RAFAC and civilian instructor Chrissie Littlejohns.

Flt Sgt R Peckham is also a volunteer at the museum and hopes to arrange further work days and visits in the future.

Fitness groups' collection for Easter surpassed expectations

MEMBERS of Brawd Men's Health and Ms Fit Women's Health over the last few years have organised an Easter Egg collection to make those less fortunate smile.

This year, the event was organised by Jamie Everitt and Andrew Harris, who aimed to collect more eggs than ever, with a target of 222 eggs.

Expectations were exceeded and they collected an incredible 1,000 eggs which were then donated to Ty Hafan, Llamau and Noah's Ark Children's Hospital.

Andrew said: "The event was a real success and we would like to give a massive thank you to everyone who supported us. In particular, special thanks go to a organisations that were incredibly generous - Atlantic Way Cross Fit, Anturio Adventure, St Cyres School, A Space in the City, South Wales Police, British Telecom and Go Direct School of Motoring.

"Diolch to our amazing volunteer ambassadors, Jamie and Andrew, for collecting a cracking amount of Easter Eggs for the young people, women and families we support!"

'Muffin has a great temperament'

MUFFIN is a beautiful six-year-old Akita cross German Shepherd, and is this week's 'Dog of the Week' from Bridgend Dogs Trust.

She is a gorgeous girl who has a great temperament with people. She is housetrained and travels well in the car. Muffin will be best suited being the only animal in the home.

She will need an experienced dog owner who is willing to continue her training when she comes into contact with other dogs. Muffin can live with children 14 years old and above. She will need an owner who is around for most of the day to begin with and gradually build up the time being left.

Canine carer Hannah says "Muffin is a wonderful girl who is looking for a committed and loving home."

For more information on Muffin, please visit the Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre in Bridgend, CF31 4NG; or give us call on 01656 725219. You can also visit our website at *www.dogstrust.org.uk.*

Got a story? Email **editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk**

Give your skin a treat with Charlotte...

CHARLOTTE Wilkey is a qualified Beauty Therapist NVQ Level 2 and 3 with over 15 years experience in the industry.

She has recently specialised in non-surgical facial enhancements with the world leader Caci International and has opened her own treatment room in Poundfield, Llantwit Major.

Caci International is an award-winning company with expertise in the beauty industry that spans two decades and supplies over 10,000 of the worlds leading beauty salons, health clubs and spas.

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The dramatic results achieved using its exclusive technologies have generated huge demand for Caci treatments and attracted an impressive celebrity following.

Charlotte offers the Caci Synergy range, the newest on the market which has introduced SPED-led technology alongside the use of microcurrent.

The use of SPED increases the effectiveness of the treatments by up to 70 per cent than just using microcurrent alone as with the Caci Ultimate and Ultra machines.

The treatments offered are tailored to each individual's needs, based on clients' requirements and desired outcome. Treatments cover a variety of skin conditions, such as muscle tone (including the jowl area),l ines and wrinkles, acne/blemished skin, dull and tired skin, dehydrated and drooping/ hooded eyelids.

For more information or for a free consultation, please contact Charlotte via email at charlottewilkey@yahoo.com or visit her website: charlottewilkeycaci.co.uk.

Council to fund two organisations

THE Vale Council has agreed to provide further financial backing – totalling more than £700,000 over the next three years – for two organisations offering support and advice to residents.

Citizens Advice Bureau will receive £154,000 annually, while Glamorgan Voluntary Service (GVS) has been awarded £95,530 per year.

Despite increasing financial pressures, this is the same level of funding each organisation received from the Council in 2018/19.

Citizens Advice Bureau offer a range of services to residents, including information about benefits and tax credits, consumer goods and services, debt management, housing, relationships and family.

Glamorgan Voluntary Services help to improve the quality of life of people and communities by supporting volunteers, volunteering opportunities and voluntary groups.

A one-stop shop for the voluntary sector, GVS provides information, advice and guidance on all aspects of volunteering for both volunteers and recruiting organisations.

Cllr Ben Gray, Vale Council cabinet member for social care, health and leisure, said: "As a council, we are committed to providing and supporting services that are of real benefit to our residents. The work of both Citizens Advice Bureau and Glamorgan Voluntary Service help countless people throughout the Vale.

"We hope the significant sums the Council have pledged to them over the next few years will help that important work continue."

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Call for lesson to be learned after great grandmother's hospital death

Gordon Amesbury.

A GREAT grandmother spent her final days in hospital in "severe pain" after falling and breaking her pelvis, which her family claim was not X-rayed for two days.

Jean Amesbury suffered at least five falls in a five-week stay at Llandough Hospital, Penarth, between March and April last year, her family say.

She broke her pelvis in her last fall at the hospital, but Jean's family say it took two days for an X-ray to take place and for doctors to discover this.

Jean died just days later, aged 81. Her family say she was in severe pain on the ward and not regularly attended to in the final days of her life.

Her family is now calling for lessons to be learned from her death after it emerged patients are suffering serious falls and in some cases, dying from their injuries at Cardiff and Vale hospitals.

Jean's widower Gordon Amesbury (87), who lives in Rumney, Cardiff, said the hospital had "neglected" his wife of 63 years and hopes the same will not happen to other patients.

He said: "When Jean went into Llandough there was so much neglect. She had so many falls while she was in there. Jean is dead – we're not going to get her back all of a sudden. I'm so upset because she was my mate. But she should not have gone the way she did.

"All I'm concerned about is the neglect that happened to my wife and I don't want it to happen to others. They have to put it right."

Jean, who had two daughters, three granddaughters and two great-grandsons, died in Llandough on April 20, 2018.

Her death certificate records bronchopneumonia, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and a pelvic fracture as the causes of her death.

Jean's family has raised concerns about how she had been supervised when she was in hospital and say she also fell in the toilet while she was unattended. In another incident, her granddaughter found her on the floor by the side of the bed.

The health board met Jean's family and agreed a number of changes, such as all falls being investigated thoroughly and staff being reminded to respond to patients in a timely manner.

In a resolution meeting between Jean's family, lead nurses and ward managers, the health board also resolved to introduce use of high-low beds, review patients care plans following any fall, ensure pain charts are up to date and a change to staffing levels in acute care.

Because of this meeting, the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales decided not to investigate the case further.

Between November and December last year, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, which also manages University Hospital Wales, reported seven falls where patients suffered serious injury – two of whom died.

Of the 4,960 falls reported between November 2017 and December 2018, 95 per cent resulted in no harm, or minor harm.

A spokeswoman for Cardiff and Vale University Health Board said: "We understand this has been a very sad and difficult time for Mr Amesbury. Following our investigation, we have put an improvement plan in place which we will be sharing an updated version with Mr Amesbury to show progress in how the health board is addressing issues of concern and to prevent anyone else coming to harm."

10th anniversary of Barry's Friendship Tree Festival

ART4U is set to hold its tenth annual Friendship Tree Festival on Sunday, June 22.

For more information on Art4U and the Friendship Tree Festival, visit Facebook @The Friendship Tree Festival or www.art4uwales.org.uk.

Student Jasmin gets graphic design gig at arts festival

DESPITE only starting a graphic communications foundation degree course in September, Cardiff and Vale College student Jasmin Choy has already found work as a graphic designer.

Jasmin Choy.

Jasmin has been taken on as an intern at youth arts festival RawFfest. Planned and programmed by young people for young people, RawFfest will take place at the Wales Millennium Centre from April 25-28.

The organisers of the festival contacted CAVC, asking for graphic communications learners; Jasmin applied and got the internship.

Her role will include creating the RawFfest souvenir programme as well as leaflets, posters and banners. Jasmin, from Bridgend said: "I only moved from Newcastle to do this foundation degree in graphic communication a couple of months ago and now I'm actually working in it.

"I was doing an apprenticeship in cyber security, but I was doing illustration and graphics in my spare time and I decided I enjoyed doing that more. I didn't have the UCAS points for university, so this foundation course was great for me.

"We are given briefs, but we have the freedom to be creative with those briefs. I'm gaining skills that are industry standard which I wouldn't get if I was still doing this on my own."

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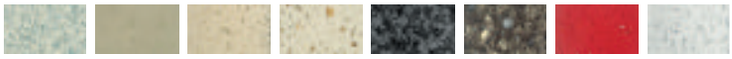

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Helen is hitting her ambitious target in weight loss journey

HELEN Waite is celebrating after hitting her target weight with Slimming World after losing seven stone and 3-and-a-half pounds.

Helen who runs groups in Rhoose, Llantwit Major and St Athan knows only too well what it is like to struggle with weight issues.

She said: "I started to gain weight at the age of 10 and by the time I started high school the weight was starting to pile on."

Helen remembers the torment of other children in school calling her names because of her weight, and also being so unfit due to her size, being laughed at in PE especially the running activities where she would always be last.

Helen said: "It's incredible that even 25 years later all this is still in the back of your mind. It inspired me enter the Cardiff Half Marathon, I started training in the school summer holidays starting with the couch to 5k, and only two weeks before the half-marathon I had only got up to 10k. I was so nervous about competing that I wondered if it was the right thing to do.

"Once the day came, I thought 'I can only do what I can'. The thing that kept me going was the comments people made all those years ago, this was my time to prove them wrong and I did it!

"It maybe wasn't the fastest time, but I completed the 13.1 miles." Helen originally lost seven stone to get married in 2004 but after having children started to struggle again: "After my pregnancies, I gained about four stone and struggled to lose weight again, losing and gaining the same stone.

"Last year we booked to renew our vows and my aim was to wear my wedding dress again and I'm ecstatic that it fits once again."

Helen is thrilled that Slimming World have a plan especially tailored for 11 to 15 year olds who can come free with a paying parent: "If I can stop one person going through what I did at school, it would make me extremely happy. No one deserves to be laughed at.

"Slimming World is suitable for any age with family friendly meals with roast dinners, spaghetti bolognese, curries, sausage and mash, cooked breakfasts, all being made out of our free food allowance. There really is no chance of going hungry and fits in with the whole family."

If you would like to find out more about Helen's groups, contact her on 07968 355119 or attend any of her groups.

SEE ADVERT ON PAGE 16.

ABOVE LEFT: Helen before, and ABOVE RIGHT: Helen after.

Dragged Across Concrete is a 'dark, minor key triumph'...

S. Craig Zahler may only be three films into his career, but already he has shown he is an idiosyncratic, single-minded and bold filmmaker.

His debut, *Bone Tomahawk*, was Western by way of cannibalistic horror, while *Brawl In Cell Block 99* took the prison movie genre and dosed it with steroids, creating an unflinching and brutal piece of work.

His third film sees him re-team with the star of … *Cell Block 99*, Vince Vaughn, in *Dragged Across Concrete*. Vaughn and Mel Gibson (something of a controversy magnet himself) star as two police detectives, Lurasetti and Ridgeman, who are suspended for their over-zealous behaviour.

When the pair decide to chase down compensation for their efforts, they find themselves deep in the criminal underworld where they are targets for no end of unsavoury characters...

The set-up for *Dragged Across Concrete* is one that has become a little over-familiar in recent years (police officers go rogue) and one that, on face value, doesn't seem to deserve a runtime of 159 minutes either.

However, the assured touch of writer/director Zahler takes what may have been cliched and portentous and turns in a piece of work that is gripping, compelling, sometimes ethereal and captivating.

There's more to the set-up than meets the eye – the film opens with the release from prison of Henry (Tory Kittles), whose involvement in the story doesn't really kick in until the second half where he proves to be a key component.

It is only after we've met Henry that we are introduced to the characters of Ridgeman and Lurasetti, and how a little heavy-handed arrest soon spirals out of control when social media gets involved (there is something uncomfortable yet hugely watchable seeing Mel Gibson debate the ethics of the media exposing people's intolerance given his run-ins of the past few years).

So what follows is a typical story strand – both detectives can't afford to be suspended without pay, Ridgeman due to the area he lives in and his sick wife, Lurasetti because of fears his girlfriend may think him beneath her – and they take action.

What Zahler does, both in the director's chair and with the script, is take his time to tell the story – there are plenty of two-handed scenes where characters interact, and Zahler never feels the need to rush these, his camera a bystander to proceedings. He ups the pace when he needs to, yet also luxuriates in the performances, which are all excellent.

SCREEN TALK with GARETH JAMIESON

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Gibson does the grizzled police officer routine incredibly well, a man with the weight of the world on his shoulders and trying to do the best thing for his family, and it's a turn that reminds you that beneath the controversy, he's an actor whose age is becoming a useful tool.

Vaughn (who was directed so memorably by Zahler in *Brawl In Cell Block 99*) is incredibly dialled down; smart yet not smarmy, his character is equally well-drawn and Vaughn responds with an incredibly watchable performance, his reluctant involvement in the escapade set up by Ridgeman a constant in the pair's relationship.

Tory Kittles is the film's hidden attraction – as the recently-released Henry he is in very much the same situation as Ridgeman and Lurasetti, yet on the other side of the law. However, Kittle's compelling turn, almost playing the moral compass of the film, is beautifully understated and powerfully portrayed.

If Zahler's first two films have shown his skills as a writer and director working within genre confines and twisting them, then this is his tour de force so far.

The dialogue is crisp, economical and drives the plot forward, while there are some wonderful little touches he uses that sometimes deviate from the story yet hold your attention (a subplot with Jennifer Carpenter's new mother struggling to return to work is exceptional).

Visually, he works within genre rules, yet the direction has a woozy feel to it that gives it a different, and hugely satisfying, feel.

It's a film of rare power, one that never puts its pedal to the floor but it doesn't need to – it knows that the characters, performances, dialogue and direction will hold you rapt throughout. As such, *Dragged Across Concrete* is one of the most quietly engrossing and pleasing films of the year.

VERDICT: S. Craig Zahler's third film is also his best yet, *Dragged Across Concrete* a dark, minor key triumph. His plotting and dialogue are pitch-perfect and he draws incredible performances from the whole cast, in particular Mel Gibson, Vince Vaughn and Tory Kittles. What could have fallen into cliché and over-familiarity instead feels exceptionally vital. *Essential viewing*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Brawl In Cell Block 99* (2017), *Reservoir Dogs* (1992).

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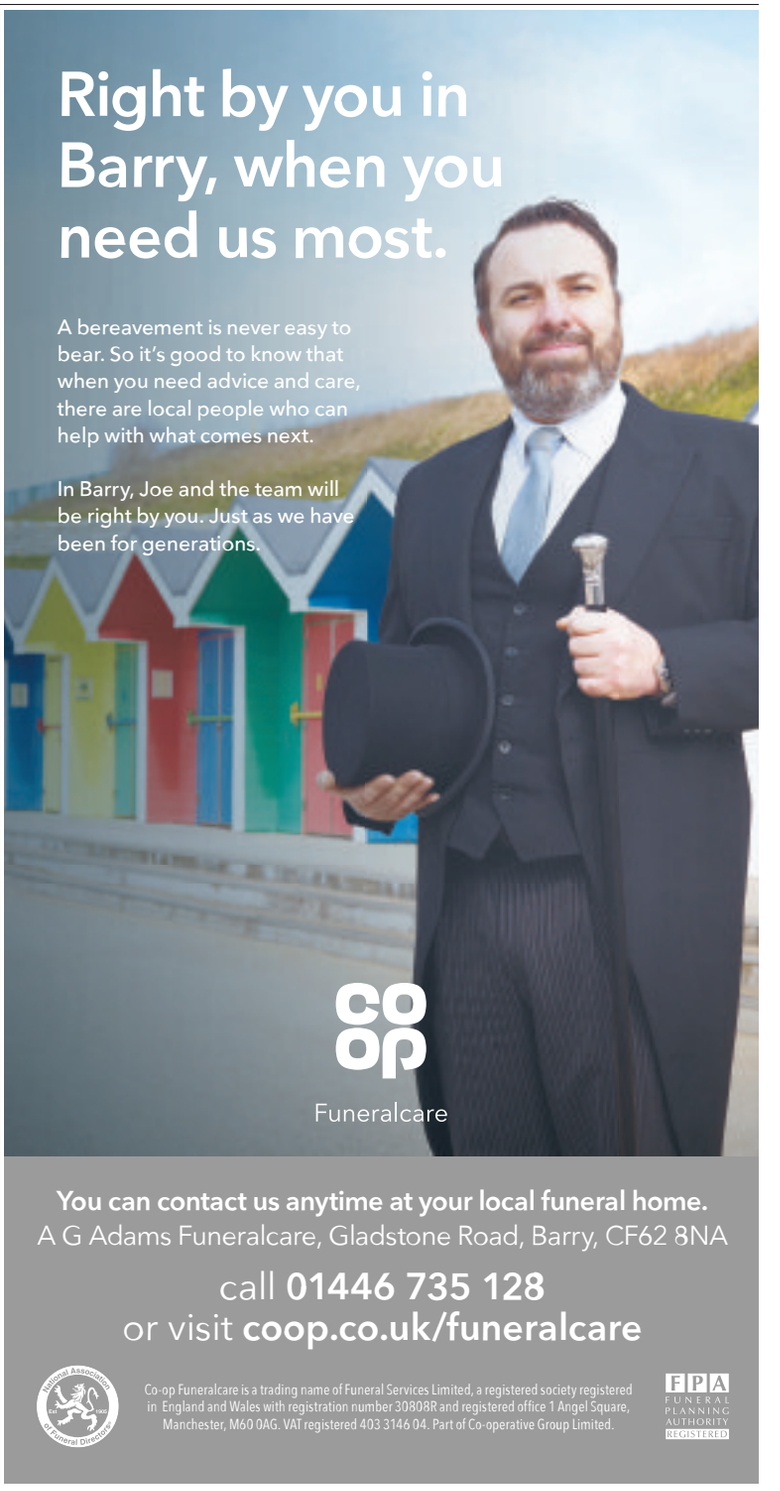

Out & About with The GEM

What's on, and where in your area?

Railway society

THE next lecture at the Barry and Penarth Railway Society will take place on Thursday, April 25 at Penarth Conservative Club, CF64 2EZ starting at 7.30pm.

Nick Wilcock will present 'Travels With My Camera – Photos of railways today'. Refreshments are available; bring a friend!

The best plant sale of the year!

ON Saturday, April 27 the annual Cowbridge Physic Garden Plant Sale takes place in Old Hall Gardens, starting at 10am.

With plants nurtured by the expert volunteers at the Physic Garden plus a number of professional nurseries from as far afield as the West Country and west Wales, this is regarded as a highlight in every gardener's calendar. With exceptionally good prices for the plants on offer, it's a horticultural event not to be missed!

Remembering the Friendly Invasion

THIS year's spring Model Day at Barry War Museum is on Sunday, April 28.

It remembers the arrival of American troops in Barry in preparation for the D Day landings that took place in June 1944. The model show will display various D Day-related models such as aircraft, armoured vehicles and tanks. There will also be a talk by museum chairman, Glenn Booker, on the arrival of American troops in 1943.

Other items on show will be a selection of space-related models commemorating 50 years since the Apollo 11 moon landing. The national charity 'Models for Heroes' will be attending the show. Models and modelling equipment will be available from Dragon Badger Models. The event begins at 10am, the talk takes place at 2.30pm. Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

Free tax advice

ARE you worried about your tax affairs?

Age Connects Cardiff & Vale Senior Health Shop run a free monthly tax advice surgery which is available to anyone over the age of 50. A session will be held on Monday, April 29 from 9.30am - 11.30am; advice is free and no appointment is needed.

You will be able to get advice from retired tax professional. Call 01446 732385 for further information; home visits can be arranged if needed.

Stroke Club

AGE Connects Cardiff and Vale are running a drop-in monthly Stroke Club in the Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry.

Get help with services available in the Vale to help you cope with the aftermath of having a stroke, and chat to others over a cuppa. The May session in line with Stroke Awareness Month will be held on Thursday, May 2 from 10am to 12pm. Why not just come along? Call 01446 732385 for further information.

PACT meetings

Why not come along to Gibbonsdown 'Cuppa with a Copper' held every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close between 10am and 12 noon.

Meet Your local officer at Penarth Library, Stanwell Road, Penarth on Thursday, May 9 between 5.30pm and 6.30pm.

A police surgery will be held at Llantwit Major Library, Boverton Road, Llantwit Major on Tuesday, May 7 between 10.30am and 11.30am.

KPC charity golf event seeks golfers!

KPC Youth & Community are holding their annual charity Golf Day on Friday, June 21 at the Grove Golf Club, Porthcawl.

Team entry for teams of four is £165 per team (or discounted Early Bird entry of £145 if submitted by April 30). Entry includes coffee on arrival, golf fees and a buffet meal following the round of golf, and to be part of our prize presentation. We still have slots available – so please come along for a great day's golf and the chance to support a local charity!

Sponsorship is also sought for raffle/auction prizes or £50 to sponsor a hole - if you can support us that would be really appreciated.

For team entry forms/ more details contact Alison on 01656 749219; *info@kpcyouth.com.*

Bridgend PACT

OLDCASTLE PACT at The Library, Brynteg Comprehensive School on Thursday, May 2 at 6pm.

MORFA TOWN PACT at Penybont Junior School, Minerva Street, Bridgend on Thursday, May 9 at 6pm.

CEFN GLAS, LLANGEWYDD & BRYNHYFRYD PACT at Westward Community Centre on Monday, May 19 at 7pm.

NEWCASTLE PACT at Westward Community Centre on Monday, May 13 at 7pm.

PORTHCAWL EAST CENTRAL PACT at Porthcawl Fire Station, Porthcawl on Tuesday, May 14 at 6.30pm.

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Karl 07411 621866

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
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Helen 01446 750738/ 07968 355119

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Martin - 07444 374377

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Gladstone Primary School, Gladstone Road, Barry
Sarah 07917 881220

Tuesdays 9.30am, 11.30am, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd, (Catholic Church), Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major
Helen 01446 750738/ 07968 355119

Tuesdays 6.30pm
The Old School, South Road, Sully
Nicola 07951 510871

Tuesday 5:30pm
Cowbridge Rugby Club High Street Cowbridge
Jordan 07808 093990

Wednesdays 4.45pm and 6.45pm
St Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road, Porth-Y-Castell, Barry
Annamarie 07837 497523

Wednesday 5.00pm
All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth
Julia 07718 284171

Wednesday 3.30pm, 5.30pm, and 7.30pm
Bridgend Deaf Club, Coychurch Road, Bridgend
Helen 07714 170908

Wednesdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
5th Barry Sea Scout Hall, Everard Street, Barry.
Karl 07411 621866

Wednesdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Gladstone Primary School, Gladstone Road, Barry
Sarah - 07917 881220

Thursdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
The Cabin Next To Swim Pool, Hebron Hall, Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys
Renae 07495 208966

Thursdays 8.00am, 10.00am, 12.00pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm
Sarn & Bryncwlis Social Club, Bryncoch Road, Sarn
Scott 07498 780419

Thursdays 9.30am
Nolton Church Hall, Merthyrmawr Road, Bridgend
Donna 07790797008

Thursdays 5.30pm
St Davids Church Hall, Wimborne Road, Pencoed
Donna 07790797008

Thursdays 5.30pm
Highlight Park Community Centre, Barry
Annamarie 07837 497523

Thursdays 9.30am & 11.30am
Memorial Hall, Cenotaph Entrance, Gladstone Road, Barry
Nicola 07951 510871

Thursday 5:30pm
St John Cymru-Wales Minerva Street Bridgend
Rhian 07837 280013

Friday 09:30
St John Cymru-Wales Minerva Street Bridgend
Rhian 07837 280013

Friday 9.30 and 11.30am
The Cabin next to Swim Pool, Hebron Hall, Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys,
Renae - 07495 208966

Saturdays 7.30am & 9.30am
The Gathering Place, Flemingston Road, St Athan
Helen 07968 355119

Saturday 9.30am
Cwm Talwg Community Centre, Cwm Parc, Barry
Vicky 07957 958900

Saturdays 7.30, 9.30 and 11.30
Colcot Community Centre, Keats Way, Barry
Martin - 07444 374377

Saturdays 8am and 10am
All Saint's Church Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth
Julia - 07718 284171

Saturday 07:30, 09:30, 11:30
Brackla Community Centre Whitethorn Drive Brackla Bridgend
Rhian 07837 280013

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70 voices will raise the roof in charity concert

VALE Voices is a pop-up choir, meeting for an hour a week for three months of the year.

Now in its ninth year, Vale Voices are 60-strong with singers aged from 11 to 80.

On Saturday, April 27 at 6.30pm, the choir will end its three months of rehearsal with a concert of music from Messiah to Motown in All Saints Church, Barry, in aid of church funds.

Special guests this year will be Vox in Frox, an award-winning choir from Chew Magna. The glamorous ladies of Vox have won prizes at many choral festivals including Cheltenham and Llangollen, and together with Vale Voices, the combined chorus of 70 singers will raise the roof with their joint rendition of the Hallelujah chorus.

Entry is £5 on the door, 16s and under are free.

DC

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All the fun of the (May) Fair at Cowbridge

A MASSIVE community event is all set up for Monday, May 6 at Cowbridge on the Bear Field, writes Philip Irwin.

Organised by Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club, the Cowbridge May Fair is becoming a regular fixture in the calendar, offering a full day out for the family.

It takes place every other year in Cowbridge, and the Lions organise a similar event on the alternate years in Llantwit, usually in June.

A Lions' spokesman told The GEM: "Since we started the May Fair, the aim has been to recapture the elements of a traditional rural fair, with Maypole dancing, children's races, children's art competitions, fairground attractions and even a tug of war!

"As in previous years, there will be musical performances from the main stage throughout the day, and there will be a wide range of stalls around the field, selling food, arts and crafts, produce, refreshments and much more."

There will be an all day children's soft play area and face painting in the Leisure Centre and this year, the event is bringing something new to the table – Cowbridge's own take on the Pamplona Bull Run, organised by Cowbridge Chamber of Trade with prizes donated by Bar 44.

A Lions spokesman emphasised to The GEM that the proposed running order for the day could be subject to alteration, but it is planned that the day will begin at 10am, when the gates open and the acts scheduled for the main stage will start performing.

The various stalls (about 50 at the time of going to press will also aim to be up-and-running at 10am, and the funfair and Maypole dancing will start at 10am too.

The official opening of the May Fair will be performed by the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Cllr Terry Williams, accompanied by the Town Crier at 10.45am.

The Children's Art Competition will open at 10am and close at 2pm in a designated gazebo.

There will be three age groups: Three to five; six to nine; and 10 to 12.

The youngest group will colour in a photocopy of a picture with felt tip pens, while the older groups will paint a designated subject on a blank sheet.

Completed entries will be hung around the gazebo awaiting judging by members of the Cowbridge Art Society.

The Tug of War competition will also start at 2pm.

At 3pm, a number of children's races will start, although it is advisable for parents to check the programme on the day. Local shops are donating prizes.

As the day closes, the new 'Bull Run' is scheduled for 4pm, with local people invited to don their bull's horns and run the gauntlet of local children armed with ripe tomatoes.

Once again, it is advised that prospective entrants check details of the run earlier in the day with the organisers.

However, it should provide an exciting climax to the day, before the event closes at 5pm.

There will be acts on stage throughout the day, although circumstances may mean some changes to the running order.

The full stage programme at the time of going to press is:

- 10.15am – 10.35 – Pendoylan C/W Primary School.
- 10.50am – 11.15 – With Music in Mind.
- 11.30am – 11.55 – Ukulele Group.
- 12.15pm – 12.45 – Rock Choir.
- 1.00pm – 1.20 – Total CAOS.
- 1.30pm – 1.55 – Gareth and Caitlin.
- 2.10pm – 2.30 – Little Strings.
- 2.45pm – 3.10 – Luke James.
- 4pm – finish – Cobalt.

The local fire service has said that a fire engine will be at the event (call-outs permitting), and it is hoped to put on a demonstration.

The spokesman added: "A programme for the day will be given out at the entry gates. Entry is free but a donation to Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club Charitable Trust Fund, which benefits local good causes and Lions projects, would be much appreciated."

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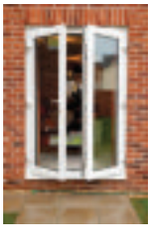

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What Kirsty said about Llancarfan school – AM and Vale Council at loggerheads

RHOOSE councillor and South Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies has claimed that alternative plans to secure the future of Llancarfan Primary School can be brought forward, following Welsh Government clarification on the funding options available.

However, a Vale Council spokesperson disagreed with Mr Davies over his interpretation of this clarification.

The council plans to close the school and move it to a new site in Rhoose four miles away, a move the council claims is necessary to access funds under the 21st Century Schools Programme. Building Bulletin 99 is the national framework for primary school building projects, which sets out minimum criteria for site area and building space.

The council claims that neither Llancarfan Primary School nor Rhws Primary School satisfy these criteria, and so neither site would qualify for funding. But in response to a Written Assembly Question from Mr Davies, Education Minister Kirsty Williams said that Welsh Government contributions under the scheme are "normally based on the costs of the building to the maximum of the building bulletin size range", but "the decision on school size ultimately rests with the local authority, and can be affected by local policy and funding arrangements".

Following this, Mr Davies called on the council to halt the process, and explore an alternative application to develop the existing schools in Rhoose and Llancarfan. Mr Davies said: "The council has long claimed there is no business case to keep Llancarfan Primary School in Llancarfan, on the basis the existing site would not qualify for 21st Century Schools funding.

"But the Minister's comments fatally undermine this, making clear the local authority has discretion when it comes to building size, and that the guidance is not mandatory. It is therefore perfectly feasible that funding could be provided to develop the existing schools in Llancarfan and Rhoose.

"The council should submit an application for this to the Welsh Government, who have an interest in protecting the Vale's only formally designated rural school. In the meantime, the plans to close the school should be scrapped while all effort is put into trying to save the existing school in Llancarfan."

A Vale Council spokesperson said: "The council has developed a scheme to deliver a new school building, which will not only provide for pupils from new housing developments in Rhoose but will also address the high number of surplus school places at Llancarfan, which is set to continue as the birth rate in the school's catchment area falls.

"Andrew RT Davies' suggestion that the council invests in two existing school buildings to provide additional school places doesn't make sense. The solution we have come up with will ensure pupils in the Vale can benefit from the very best facilities possible.

"It is disappointing that Mr Davies has chosen to only partially share Kirsty Williams' response, in which she is clear that Welsh Government require councils to meet the Building Bulletin 99 regulations when applying for Welsh Government funding."

Jam Fund's 'thank you' to fundraisers

Mason Reynolds.

PAUL Adamson has thanked Tesco in Quedgeley, near Gloucester, for running a fundraiser for the Jam Fund.

The charity recently helped three-year-old Mason Reynolds from Gloucester who was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, and his grandmother Maureen Reynolds was so grateful she helped organise the event.

Paul said: "I want to thank Maureen, Theresa Fisher, the staff at Tesco and the ladies at the local Knit and Natter group who collectively raised £850 for the Jam Fund. They also raised £50 for gifts for Mason. The ladies at Knit and Natter raised £500 from selling items they had made."

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

MP has extra incentive to finish marathon

Alun Cairns MP in training for the London Marathon, alongside Guide Dogs Cymru engagement manager, Andrea Gordon and her guide dog Kayley.

VALE MP Alun Cairns, who is running the London Marathon for the eighth time, will be given the honour of naming a guide dog puppy if he raises £2,500 in sponsorship for the Guide Dogs charity.

If he doubles that to £5,000 he will get to meet the puppy and follow its progress as it trains to become a fully-fledged guide dog. Mr Cairns has been a strong supporter of Guide Dogs throughout his time as Vale MP.

Last year, he undertook a blindfold walk in Dinas Powys to experience at first hand the dangers posed by vehicles parked on pavements. He also took a blindfold bus ride to promote the charity's campaign for audible announcements on buses, and highlighted the plight of assistance dog owners who are illegally refused access to taxis.

The charity was delighted when the MP named Guide Dogs as one of two charities to benefit from his run this year, alongside the Dementia Revolution. Andrea Gordon, engagement manager for Guide Dogs Cymru said: "Alun has always been proactive in his support for our charity and understands the problems faced by people who are blind or partially sighted. A guide dog brings independence, confidence and mobility, and can really change your life."

You can help Alun Cairns MP to reach his target by pledging a donation at virginmoneygiving.com/aluncairns.

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It has great food, an extensive array of drinks, special occasion function rooms, children's play facilities and overnight accommodation. No wonder it's developed an enviable reputation as one of Vale's most popular pub-restaurants.

It has recently undergone a stylish refurbishment with the skills of local craftsmen, using natural materials such as lime plastering, flagstone floors and featuring reclaimed oak. The carefully sourced materials have been brought together to give a traditionally cosy but modern finish.

Naturally, the pub serves a wide range of traditional meat and fish dishes. The menu continues to evolve with a large range of vegan and vegetarian dishes.

Food is served from morning to night, from a traditional Welsh breakfast to a tasty evening meal. Pop in for fresh coffee with a choice of cakes or choose from our lunchtime snack menu.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

All dishes are produced by an in-house team of five chefs, using local produce from local farms. It all adds up to delicious, freshly produced home-made dishes.

Nowadays people love a wide choice of drinks and owner Richard Peters has sourced new wines from around the world. There are more than 20 gins, more than 20 malt whiskeys and a large range of tempting cocktails. The pub has two of its own real ales – Blacksmith's Ale and Poacher's Ale.

Sports lovers aren't forgotten either. There's a giant 75-inch TV with surround sound – and seven other screens with all the top sport on BT and Sky Sports.

There are two function rooms that can each accommodate 50-plus people and are perfect for weddings, special occasions or business meetings.

The pub couldn't be more family friendly. There are children's play areas indoors and outside. During sunny spells, mum and dad can enjoy al fresco dining and keep an eye on the kids as they enjoy a play and run-around. Dogs are welcome too.

The pub also offers a full catering and bar service of the same standard brought to a venue of your choice.

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Hundreds back Barry mum's education petition

A Barry mum's online petition demanding better funding for Vale schools has been signed by more than 800 people.

Mum of two Lucy Jones put the petition called 'Match school funding to national average in the Vale of Glamorgan' on Change.org and within days it had attracted hundreds of supporters.

She said: "Our schools are funded significantly under the national average, and the basics required to give our children the education they deserve are compromised.

"The Vale of Glamorgan receives £606 less per pupil than the Welsh average and £1,360 less per pupil than the highest-funded local authority. Headteachers all over the Vale are letting us know the pressures they are under financially just to make ends meet."

On the petition website she added: "Please sign the petition to show the First Minister we care about our children's education. We need to get behind our headteachers, all school staff and our children. We cannot sit back and allow bureaucracy to stamp all over our children's future."

Miss Jones had recently received a letter from primary school headteachers in Barry saying they were at crisis point.

In the letter, the headteachers issued stark warnings, including that children's education and safety could be compromised. They said there may be enforced redundancies for teachers and learning support assistants.

The letter to parents and carers reads: "Once again, the Vale Council has taken money from other budgets and funded schools at significantly more than they are allocated by Welsh Government. We are grateful to our councillors as without this our schools would have become untenable.

"As a group of Barry schools alone we will need to find hundreds of thousands of pounds in savings this year.

"To be clear, we are short of what we will need just to stand still. Many schools are looking at redundancies for teachers and LSAs.

"We all have predicted shortfalls (double this year's) for the next financial year. Your children's education and life chances are being compromised by the Welsh Government's failure to fund schools properly."

The headteachers appealed to parents to let politicians know how they feel.

Vale Council Leader, Cllr John Thomas, told The GEM he was pleased to see teachers in Barry, and other areas of the Vale, showing solidarity against the Welsh Government's "flawed pupil funding system".

He said: "There is a failure to acknowledge that we receive the lowest level of funding for education from Welsh Government in the first instance as a result of a flawed formula designed by Welsh Government. While it may have once been effective, this formula has not been reviewed for 18 years and relies on data gathered in the 1991 census.

"It simply beggars belief that the funding of possibly the most important area of our work is determined by data that is almost 30 years old… The fact is Vale pupils' education is being held back by the use of an outdated and flawed Welsh Government formula."

The GEM put the points made by Miss Jones and Cllr Thomas to the Welsh Government.

A spokesman explained: "It's important to note that the level of spending on schools is set by individual local authorities, not by the Welsh Government. The Vale of Glamorgan spends the least per pupil in Wales.

"We recognise that to continue to raise standards, our schools and teachers need additional support. That is why we recently announced the single biggest investment for teachers since devolution – a £24m package of professional learning to support the new curriculum, giving schools the time and resources they need."

On Cllr Thomas's comments on the funding formula, the spokesman said: "The vast majority of Welsh Government funding for schools comes from the local government settlement and over 90 per cent of the schools' part of the formula is based on data updated annually, such as pupil numbers.

"The funding formula is agreed each year and we have presented proposals to update the 1991 census-related element. However, these proposals were not pursued by local authorities."

TC

Foodbank reveals increase over last 12 months

THE Vale Food bank provided 3,833 three-day emergency food parcels to local people between April 2018 to March 2019. Of this number, 1,414 went to children.

The local food bank's figures feed into a larger national picture with a record increase in foodbank use across the UK reported today by the Trussell Trust.

The Vale Food bank is backing calls from the Trussell Trust to ensure the benefits system is able to protect people from poverty.

The figures from the Vale Food bank are an 11 per cent increase on the same period last year. The charity believes the local increase is due to people struggling with continued issues with benefit payments and issues with Universal Credit, such as the five-week wait for a first payment.

Susan Lloyd-Selby, Vale Foodbank co-ordinator said: "No one in the Vale should need a foodbank's help and we want to see an end to local people needing emergency food at all. It doesn't have to be this way - our benefits system is supposed to protect us all from being swept into poverty. Universal Credit should be part of the solution, but currently the five week wait is leaving many without enough money to cover the basics – this isn't right.

"Until we reach a future where foodbanks are no longer needed, we'll continue to provide vital support when it matters most. We're dedicated to ensuring that people in our community without enough money for food are able to access emergency support. Our vital work in the community has only been possible in the last year because of the incredible generosity shown by local people in donating food, time and funds."

'Uniform choice could be taken away from schools' warns trader

LOCAL businesses across Wales are warning against a proposed change in law around the supply of school uniform,and a Cowbridge retailer is warning that it could take the element of choice away from schools.

Late last year, the Welsh Government launched a consultation on plans to introduce new statutory guidance on school uniform in Wales, and the announcement met with concern from industry representative The Schoolwear Association.

The changes to legislation would result in increased competition for those businesses which supply specific uniform to schools as head teachers would be restricted in the choices that they could make to their unifoms.

Sally Stephenson, director of The Pencil Case, a local schoolwear supplier in Cowbridge, said: "Historically, most schools in communities across Wales would always work directly with a local school uniform supplier to provide a uniform.

"The suppliers would commit to providing all of the children with a uniform regardless of their size, their needs, or the time of the year. The head teacher and governors would be able to decide their own individual uniform policy and how the supply chain should work for their school, but if this new legislation comes in, all of that could be lost.

"There has been an independent business selling schoolwear in Cowbridge for over 50 years, I took the business over five years ago and we consider ourselves very much part of the community. We offer a quality and personal service to our customers, and this together with providing local employment, is paramount to us.

"The school uniform we provide is very high quality and excellent value for money. Our shop adds to the High Street and benefits the local economy. We care about the community and we deeply value our customers. I don't think the same can be said for the big supermarkets."

It's not just small local retailers that could suffer from the changes, but thousands of jobs could be at risk at the suppliers which stock the local schoolwear stores.

Mike Williams, sales manager for Wales at Winterbottoms Schoolwear said:

"As it currently stands, we supply the small independent stores with school uniform agreed by the schools. If this change comes into Welsh legislation, we could see schools lose the ability to decide what their uniform should be, uniform would lose its "uniformity" as doors would open which would greatly impact on the industry.

"Shops that we supply would face immense pressure and potentially no longer be required. If demand falls in these local shops, due to what seems like a 'cheaper' alternative at supermarkets, the retailers that we supply who are local Welsh people, could lose their jobs. Quality uniform is great value, lasting for many years. Our High Streets and independent retailers are under enough pressure as it is.

"We have been supported by industry bodies like The Schoolwear Association that has not only warned against the change on behalf of all the people who's job hangs in the balance, but has also explained the impact this could have on pupils, especially those from poorer backgrounds. The change would mean that the option to choose could expose poorer children to scrutiny if their uniform isn't seen to be 'the same' as their peers."

The consultation period on the legislation has now ended, and the Welsh Government is currently reviewing the responses.

The GEM asked the Welsh Government to comment but, at the time of going to press, one had not been received.

History Society

COWBRIDGE History Society's next lecture will be on Friday, May 3 in the Lesser Hall of the Town Hall, Cowbridge. The subject will be 'The Lave Netsman of Wales' by Dylan Jones (National Museum of Wales).

Members should note that the Society's AGM will be held before this talk at 7pm. For further information, visit www.cowbridgehistorysociety.org.

Care home opens its cinema for local visitors to Dementia Cafe

The cinema room at Tŷ Llandaff.

A CARDIFF care home is opening up screenings in its cinema room to regular visitors of local dementia cafés.

Staff and residents at Tŷ Llandaff, a private nursing, residential and respite care home in Pontcanna, will be welcoming visitors to share uplifting films with them every Friday afternoon from 2.15pm as part of a new initiative.

Tŷ Llandaff activities co-ordinator Melanie Geoghegan said: "We regularly visit local dementia cafés as our residents enjoy meeting other people, giving and receiving support from one another and they find getting out into the community is invaluable.

"We came up with the idea of hosting film screenings in our cinema room as a way of giving something back to the community to which we owe so much. We have such fabulous facilities at Tŷ Llandaff, such as the cinema room, and we hope visitors will enjoy visiting our home."

Dementia cafés offer a hub for people suffering from dementia and their carers to gather in a safe and caring environment to have light refreshments, and often enjoy entertainment or activities. Generally run by volunteers as drop-in centres for a nominal cost, the cafés also act as a point to share information and support.

Tŷ Llandaff will be screening modern films and classic family favourites including *The Greatest Showman, Mamma Mia* and *The Sound of Music,* all of which have feel-good storylines to help boost the mood, as well as the added benefit of a musical soundtrack which is known to aid memory in people with dementia.

Melanie added: "Our residents really enjoy their film afternoons, and it will be really nice to see new faces here, to welcome them as friends and to give everyone the opportunity to socialise over a good movie."

For more information about Tŷ Llandaff call 02920 600 100, email *info@ tyllandaffcare.com* or visit *www.tyllandaffcare.com*

Ultra runners take on the Vale coast

THE Vale Coastal Ultra race – 32 miles in total – took place on April 6.

The race took in the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan coast, starting at Penarth Pier and finishing at Ogmore-by-Sea. The runners took in 19 beaches and many spectacular views along the Heritage Coast.

Local photographer Andy Wicks captured the runners at Llantwit Major beach.

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Cats charity issues warning about buying pets online

BUYING cats or kittens from private sellers online is a risky business, says Cats Protection after they were contacted by the owners of two very sick white kittens.

The two kittens before they were nursed back to health. (Photo by Sue Dobbs).

Daffan and Dill after the Bridgend Adoption Centre had cared for them. (Photo by Sue Dobbs).

The charity's Bridgend Adoption Centre recently took in Daffan and Dill, who were sold for £360 as a pair and advertised as being eight weeks old.

When the new owners got the kittens home, they quickly realised that something was wrong as they were still trying to suckle and had raging diarrhoea.

They took the kittens to the vet who advised them that they were in fact around five weeks old, had a huge burden of worms and one was slightly jaundiced.

The vet also warned them they might die, so they called on Cats Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre for help.

"We were really shocked at how ill they were," said Sue Dobbs, manager of the centre.

"The little girl Daff was particularly bad as she was very cold and very lethargic. As well as diarrhoea, the kittens went on to develop flu and we soon discovered they were deaf too. It took four weeks and a lot of energy and money to get the kittens back to full health."

To offer cats the same welfare protection as dogs, Cats Protection is urging the Government to consider regulating cat breeding so that potential buyers are able to go to a licensed cat breeder.

It welcomed the recently announced Welsh Government consultation considering how best to address issues related to cat breeding and selling and is also calling for an update to the law on selling cats to reflect the modern age – recognising that the majority of kittens and cats are now advertised for sale online.

They are asking that this should include a ban on the commercial sale of kittens under eight weeks which could have prevented Daffan and Dill from being sold at such a young age.

"Our branches across Wales still regularly tell us harrowing stories of kittens bred and sold that are very sick," said Madison Rogers, Advocacy and Government Relations Officer.

"It is vital that the breeding of cats is regulated and the law on selling cats in Wales is updated to avoid such tragedies. By choosing to adopt, rather than going to a breeder, you are caring for a kitten that already needs support instead of bringing another one into the world," said Madison.

"It is also beneficial for you because you'll have peace of mind that your cat or kitten is a healthy pet."

All cats and kittens adopted from Cats Protection are health-checked, wormed, vaccinated against cat flu and enteritis, neutered where appropriate and come with a free period of pet insurance.

This year, Cats Protection's cat care assistants – who help look after cats like Daffan and Dill at Bridgend Adoption Centre – are being funded, thanks to players of People's Postcode Lottery, who have raised £404 million to-date for similar good causes.

Sky Notes for May – by Dave Powell of Barry Astronomical Society

THE familiar constellation The Plough is almost overhead and the pointers show the direction to the northern horizon.

Half-way down in this direction we can see the Pole star, half-way down to the horizon again is the familiar constellation of Cassiopeia, with its easy to see 'W' shape. Here, with the aid of binoculars, we can see the Milky Way.

Having watched it when it was almost overhead, it may now seem strange to see it so low in the sky. It can be traced from the western horizon, looping underneath the Pole star, across to the eastern horizon.

If we go back to the Plough, locate the end star opposite to the pointers. Follow a curved line until you see a bright orange star: this is Arcturus, marking the constellation of Bootes.

Continue a curved line down towards the southern horizon and another bright star, Spica, will be seen. We have now arrived at the constellation Virgo. Spica is massive, something like 2.500 times as luminous as our Sun. It may very well be a two stars (binary) system although, if so, they are too close together to be seen individually. As for its colour, some see it as white, others bluish/white.

If you have a dark sky you will note Virgo looks something like the letter 'Y' shape. Amateur astronomers with access to back-garden telescopes look forward to this time of year because hidden from view in the 'bowl' of the letter Y are hundreds of galaxies. The brightest ones can be seen in telescopes.

One of the easiest to see is known as M87, and it is a giant elliptical galaxy thought to lie around 48/56 million light years from Earth. Galaxies come in different forms, but there are two main types: spiral, like the Milky Way and elliptical like M87.

One main difference between the two is that we know spiral galaxies still have material that forms new stars.

Elliptical galaxies are thought to have used up all the star-forming material. If you have a telescope you will need a clear, moonless night to search for M87.

On April 12, a first quarter Moon will be near the bright star Regulus in the constellation of Leo.

On April 15, the Moon is to the right of Spica. By the middle of May, the giant planet Jupiter will be rising just before midnight.

Do check out the website of Barry Astronomical Society www.barryastronomical.wordpress.com for details of when we hold observing sessions and our fortnightly meetings. Everyone is welcome.

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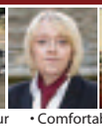

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Obituaries

BOWEN
Malcolm John

Peacefully on 18th April, in the presence of his loving family, Malcolm aged 82 years of Barry. Dearly loved and adored husband of the late Maureen. A loved and treasured father of Paul, Neil and Karen and adored father-in-law of Pam and Dawn. Cherished grandfather of Michelle, Emma, David, Thomas, Ryan and great grandfather of Ethan, Oscar, Jacob and Benjamin. Dearest brother-in-law (brother) of John and Pamela.

Malcolm will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at St Helen's RC Church on Wednesday, 1st May at 10.30am, followed by an interment at Barry Cemetery.

Flowers may be sent directly to the funeral home or donations may be made in favour of Marie Curie Cancer Care at the service.

MAYOR
Gladys

Sadly passed away peacefully on 18th April, aged 90 years. Devoted wife of the late Bob, loving mother of Melody and Karl. Grandmother to Wayne, Tony, Lee, Adrian and Holly.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Monday, 29th April at 4pm.

Family flowers only.

JOHN
Mary Gwyneth

Peacefully on Wednesday, 17th April at Albert Edward Court, Porthcawl, Mary of 14 Hutchwns Close, Porthcawl. Beloved wife of the late Howard and much loved mother of Cathryn, Dafydd, Bethan and Gareth. A loving mother-in-law, grandmother and great grandmother.

Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Cremation at Margam on Thursday, 2nd May at 1.30pm, followed by a Thanksgiving Service to celebrate her life at Trinity Church, Porthcawl at 3pm. Black dress optional.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if so desired, to the RNLI and Christian Aid c/o Richard Mustoe, Porthcawl Funeral Service, 75 New Road, Porthcawl, CF36 5DH. Tel 01656 783699.

BOWDITCH
Phyllis Jean

The family are heartbroken to announce that Phyllis, aged 84, passed away at the University Hospital of Wales on 10th April after a short illness. Cherished mother, nan and great grandmother.

Resting at Robert D. Johnson Funeral Directors, 29 Holton Road, Barry. Funeral service will be held at 2pm on Thursday, 2nd May at Barry Cemetery Chapel, followed by interment at 2.30pm.

No floral tributes at the request of the family, but donations to Dementia UK will be welcome at the service or sent to the funeral director.

For further enquiries telephone 01446 733844.

SCOTT-PHILLIPS
Jean (*née* Patterson)

Peacefully on 4th April 2019 at Bryn Celyn Care Home, Jean aged 91 years. Beloved wife of the late Tom.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Thursday, 25th April at 10am. No flowers by request. Donations in lieu, if so desired, for Cancer Research UK c/o the funeral director.

OWEN
Thomas Mark

Sadly, Tom passed away peacefully at Llandough Hospital on 10th April, aged 51 following a short illness.

Reunited with his beloved Kerry.

Resting at Robert D Johnson Funeral Directors, 29 Holton Road, Barry until interment at Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery on Thursday, 2nd May at 11am, followed by a service at 11.30pm in the cemetery chapel.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made at the service in memory of Tom to the I.C.U at Llandough Hospital.

For all enquiries telephone 01446 733844.

COLLEDGE
Neil

Announcing the unexpected passing of Neil on 11th April 2019 at the University Hospital of Wales. Husband to Jennifer, father to Simon and Rachel. Bampy to Emily, Harri and Maisy.

He will be remembered with much love.

Resting at Robert D Johnson Independent Funeral Directors, 29 Holton Road, Barry. A service will be held to celebrate Neil's life on Friday, 3rd May at 1.15pm at the Hope Baptist Church, Station Hill, Bridgend, CF31 1EA, followed by committal at Coychurch Crematorium at 2.45pm.

Flowers may be sent to the funeral director.

For all enquiries telephone 01446 733844.

In Memory

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Patricia (Pat)

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Birthday memories of a much loved mum and nan.

To lose someone so speical is really hard to bear. It hardly seems believable that you're no longer here.

You always lived life to the full but ours won't be the same, each day we're challenged with the grief when we speak or hear your name.

We will make a birthday wish today to the angels up above, to place a kiss upon your cheek and send you all our love.

Love and miss you forever, you are never more than a thought away.

Love Tommy, Tina, Yvonne, Maria, Gerald, Tisha, grandchildren and great grandchildren xxxx

PYCROFT
Dr. Jason

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'Till we meet again

Mum and Dad

MONTGOMERY
Jordan

29th April

Birthday Memories of our dear grandson, Jordan. Thinking of you always and always in our hearts.

Love always Nan & Gramps Crout xxx

Acknowledgements

ANDERSON
Nigel Gerald

Anne and family thank everyone who helped look after Nigel during his illness, Western Vale Family Practice and district nurses, Barry Adult Services, the Princess of Wales Hospital and The Manor, St Hilary for their excellent nursing care.

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Young Barry gymnasts enjoy success at championships

YMCA Barry female gymnasts have had another successful competition at the Welsh Elite and National Grade Championships.

Casey Moors, Emmy Saddler and Olivia Dawkins.

National Grade 4 is the first national level grade which has a number of very complex and demanding routines included. Three gymnasts from YMCA Barry competed: Casey Moores, Emmy Saddler and Olivia Dawkins competed against a very strong field and Emmy Saddler earning herself sixth place on Bars. After demonstrating their beautiful gymnastics Olivia received a Pass, with Emma and Casey receiving a Commended.

In the Elite Grade category, Azaria Karim competed in Compulsory 4 and Millie Williams competed in Compulsory 3. The Elite Grade system is a programme designed to physically prepare young gymnasts with the potential to become elite gymnasts as they get older. This is an extremely challenging competition.

In Elite Level four eight year old Azaria claimed fourth on Vault, second Beam, sixth on Floor and with all the scores combined fourth Overall. In Elite Level three nine-year-old Millie received fourth on Vault, third on Beam, second on Floor, first on Range and Conditioning and with all the scores combined, was second Overall.

Both girls qualified to represent Wales in the British Elite Grade Championships in May. A fantastic achievement for the girls and YMCA Barry.

Following on from the competition, Millie Williams travelled straight to Lilleshall, British Gymnastics National Centre for her first British Performance Pathway Squad. Millie had a brilliant first training session where she trained with the top gymnasts of her age, as well as the British National coaches.

Millie Williams and Azaria Karim.

YMCA Barry gymnastics club currently has spaces in a number of its classes. YMCA Barry cater for all levels from Gymbabies, Gymtots, beginner gymnastics for boys and girls, teen gymnastics, cheerleading, trampolining, disability gymnastics as well as competitive gymnastics for male and females.

If you would like your son or daughter to try gymnastics contact YMCA Barry on 01446 724000, email sophie@ymcabarry.org.uk or on social media @ ymcabarry.

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern,
We, **Bridgend 1012 Ltd,** do hereby give notice that we have applied to the Vale of Glamorgan Council Licensing Authority to vary the premises licence for **Fox and Hounds, St Brides Major, Bridgend, CF32 0SA.**

The Application seeks to approve refurbishment and structural alteration works as more clearly illustrated on the plan deposited with the licensing authority and to amend permitted hours as follows:

Sale of alcohol:

Sunday to Thursday: 1000 hrs – 2300 hrs.

Friday, Saturday & Bank Holiday Sunday: 1000 hrs – 12 midnight

Opening hours:

Sunday to Thursday: 0700 hrs – 2330 hrs

Friday, Saturday & Bank Holiday Sunday: 0700 hrs – 0030 hrs

Any person wishing to make representation to this application may do so either in writing to **Licensing Section, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or email to licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk** no later than **Wednesday 15 May 2019**. A copy of the application can be viewed at the Licensing Authority's address during normal office hours.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being unlimited.

PUBLIC NOTICE
LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern,
I, **Sam Lewis,** do hereby give notice that I have applied to the licensing authority (Vale of Glamorgan) for the grant of a premieses licence at **6 St Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QW** known as **Lilbits.**

The licensable activities will be the sale of alcohol between **Sunday to Thursday 10am - 11pm, Friday to Saturday 10am - 00.00am.**

Any person wishing to make representation to this application may do so either in writing to **Licensing Section, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or email to licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk** no later than **Wednesday 15 May 2019**. A copy of the application can be viewed at the Licensing Authority's address during normal office hours.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5000.

Signed: **S. Lewis**

Date: **15th April 2019**

Bridgend Bridge Club

THE latest results for Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows:

On April 17: First, Rob Forman and Alan Heath; second, Glyn Williams and Irene Wickham; third, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones. The winners on handicap were Rob Forman and Alan Heath.

On April 18: First, Maggie Ashpole and Mike Williams; second, Stuart Davies and John Henson; third, Dilys Bowser and V Irene Thomas.

Regular club nights take place at 7pm on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall. On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding. All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

Before the Thursday afternoon session, at 1pm, Steve Burgoyne will give a talk on forcing bids.

GJ

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Vale venues are all set to host World Bowls tournament

BARRY and Dinas Powys will host the world's best lawn bowlers next month when the 2019 World Bowls Atlantic Championships gets underway at four locations across Cardiff and the Vale.

The elite level event, which has previously been hosted in Cyprus and South Africa, will take place between Friday, May 10 and Thursday, May 23 at Barry Athletic, Dinas Powys, Penarth Windsor and Penylan bowls clubs.

More than 20 nations, including the likes of Spain, Argentina, Turkey, Brazil and Kenya will bring male and female teams for what promises to be a fiercely contested competition.

Thousands of spectators will have the opportunity to experience world class Bowls live – as Wales welcomes a prestigious bowling event for the first time.

Vale residents can follow the Men's Pairs and Women's Fours at Dinas Powis, or the Women's Singles and Men's Triples at Barry Athletic from the opening day through to Tuesday, May 21 from 8.15a,m, before the action heats up with the play-offs a day later.

Penarth plays host to the other half of the Women's Singles and Men's Triples draws over the same period before Finals Day at Penylan on Thursday, May 23.

The tournament will take place over 12 days and across four venues in Cardiff and the Vale, and event manager Alun Hodges is relishing the opportunity to bring the best lawn bowls players in the world to Wales.

He said: "We are absolutely delighted to be bringing the World Bowls Atlantic Championships to Wales. The country has become a world-renowned sporting location and we hope bowls can make a similar impact on Wales' rich sporting landscape.

"I have witnessed the growth of bowls in Wales first-hand during my nine years as an international selector and subsequent roles as International team manager during the 2014 Commonwealth Games and 2016 World Championships.

"I'm thrilled to be leading the team who will bring this event to four venues across south Wales to put bowls firmly in the hearts and minds of the sports mad Welsh public."

The World Bowls Atlantic Championships 2019 is organised and funded by the Welsh Bowls Association in association with Welsh Government and Run 4 Wales - for more information visit *welshbowls.co.uk*.

Pictured (left to right): Terry Hopkins, secretary Welsh Bowling Association, Ray Davies, treasurer Welsh Bowling Association, Beryl Holmes, Welsh Women's Bowling Association, John Manfield, assistant secretary Welsh Bowling Association and Alun Hodges, event manager of 2019 World Bowls Atlantic Championships.

Latest news and results from Barrivale Bridge

Allan Rees was awarded the Bill Shore Trophy for handicap of the year award.

THE results for the Barrivale Bridge Club on April 16 are as follows:

First, Peter Millar and Mick Green, 60.32 per cent; second, Mark Roderick and Mike Close, 58.33 per cent; third, Irene Thomas and Jane Brook, 52.38 per cent. The handicap winners were Allan and Pat.

New members at the club are always welcomed and a partner may be arranged, if required. If you would like to join, call 01446 418380, 01446 733425, 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

Alternatively, players inexperienced or new to bridge playing, may attend the following sessions: Friday 10am (doors open 9.45am) at the Pioneer Hall for lessons and assisted play; Thursday afternoons for assisted play from 1.30pm-4pm at the Barry Uniting Church, Heol y Llongau, Barry CF63 4AP.

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Lloyd trusts Glamorgan can bounce back

NORTH-WALIAN all-rounder David Lloyd believes that Glamorgan can bounce back from the disappointment of their two-run defeat against Somerset on Sunday in the Royal London One-Day Cup.

Having slumped to 21 for five at one stage, the middle-order and tail made up for a dismal top-order batting display, which subsequently saw Marnus Labuschagne, Charlie Hemphrey and Kiran Carlson selected for the Second XI against Somerset's Second XI at Taunton Vale on Tuesday.

Following his 68 against Hampshire, Lloyd hit 84 from 93 balls, Graham Wagg struck 62 and Lukas Carey made a valiant 39 in the closing stages on Sunday.

The Welsh side ultimately failed to register their first win in one-day cricket this season, and now face tough opposition in last year's runners-up Kent at Sophia Gardens on Thursday.

Alun Rhys Chivers

Memories of the Monmouthshire Hunt point-to-point

THE Monmouthshire Point-To-Point racecourse was always popular with owners, riders and trainers from the Vale, Cowbridge's James Tudor will go down in history as being the last jockey to ride a winner there.

Brian Lee, who has been reporting on the Welsh hunt-racing scene for more than half-a-century, takes a look back in time…

The Monmouthshire Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases, which had been held at Llanvapley near Abergavenny since 1953 moved to a new venue at the Monmouthshire Show Ground this year.

When I interviewed Peter Scudamore after he had won on a horse called *Melivan* at Llanvapley in 1978, he told me he was joining the paid ranks, and little did I think then that I was talking to a rider who would become champion National Hunt jockey a record breaking eight times, and a jockey who would go on to ride a record breaking 1,678 winners and who would also set a record of riding 221 winners during the 1988/89 season.

When racing took place for the first time at Llanvapley, some 6,000 enthusiasts saw the popular grey *Sylvester 11* land the adjacent hunts ladies' race for the third year on the bounce.

However, it was a close thing, with *Sylvester 11* holding on by a head from the South Hereford challenger *High Chance*.

Cowbridge's Daphne Williams was the rider on this occasion, whereas in 1952, when the races had been held at Raglan, Sylvester 11 had been partnered by April Budgen and in 1951 by April's sister Ruth.

The men's open race was run in two divisions with Dick Bowen winning the first on Wilf Lewis' *Copper Street* and Brian Jenkins the second on *Gilbey*.

The following year, 1954, *Sylvester 11* won the race for the fourth time and in doing so beat the same horse, *High Chance*, he had beaten the previous year. However, the rider this time was Miss Penny Pragnell. The men's open was won by *Gilbey* which beat *Kilbraes*.

The 1955 season saw *Sylvester 11* in cracking form, winning six races. Unfortunately, the one race he failed to win was at the Monmouthshire where he was trounced by South Herefordshire's *Gay Day*.

The best men's open race horse in 1957 was *Stoney Bridge,* ridden by St Athan farmer Jim Thomas, who beat the highly-rated Worcestershire horse *Merry Courier*.

Another good Welsh point-to-pointer around this time was Mr R H Jenkins' bay mare *Mariji,* who during the 1956 season and ridden by Isobel Lewis, won at the Tredegar, Monmouthshire, south Herefordshire, Glamorgan, Ludlow and Curre meetings.

All told, *Mariji* won 23 races and Isobel was in the saddle for 22 of them.

Howard Jones' charmingly named *Chingley Golden Heart*, partnered by Howard's brother Lloyd Jones, was another great favourite who graced the Llanvapley course back then in the 1950s.

In 1962, Mr RJ Anstey's *Andy 11* won the Somerset Cup under the legendary Bill Jones in one of the biggest fields - there were 15 runners - for the race in years. *Andy 11* won her 17th and final race in 1967 when beating the consistent **Agitate** at Llanvapley.

It was at Llanvapley the following year, 1968, that Bassaleg's Mike Williams, riding like a man possessed on *Duck and Dive*, beat the famed front-running *Bronze Miller* by a neck in a race I will never forget.

There was a real touch of class about the Monmouthshire Hunt races of 1969 as the hunt staged three Players' Gold Leaf qualifying races.

The first was won by the Lady Dudley Cup winner *Bright Willow,* the second by *Sunarise*, who some claim was the best point-to-pointer ever, and the third by *Touch of Tammy* which went on to win, among other races, the Horse and Hound Cup.

All three winners were long odds-on favourites but one horse who provided a good result for the bookies was Milton Bradley's prolific winner *Octroi*, who, under regular rider Celia Conley, beat the favourite *Parka*.

In 1972 national champion rider Sue Aston chalked up her 100th winner at the Monmouthshire's evening meeting. There were just four runners and *Octroi* pulled up after jumping two fences, *Saledun* carried out *Go Pontinental* at the next fence, leaving *Rathcriddoge*, described as 'a very tricky customer', to finish alone.

Fast forward to 1980 and Abergavenny farrier Andrew James, riding *Lady Pen*, landed a huge gamble when winning the men's open race after being backed from 20-1 to 4-1 and off the board in places.

However, Andrew's most memorable win at Llanvapley came a couple of years later when riding a horse called *Magic Rock* in the members' race - it fell twice and still emerged the winner!

Magic Rock was leading *Kanda Fair* until falling at the 10th fence which left *Kanda Fair,* partnered by Rodway Heathfield, with a clear lead.

Quickly remounting, Andrew chased after the leader and was closing the gap only to fall again at the 14th fence.

Undaunted, Andrew remounted again and by the time *Kanda Fair* had reached the final fence Andrew and *Magic Rock* had caught them up and went on to land the prize.

In 1984 the Monmouthshire celebrated their 80th anniversary, their first meeting having been held at Penylan, Llanarth in 1904.

In 1989 the hunt staged a nine-race card and Andrew James was successful on *Dashalong* and *Crumpet Catcher*. Tim Jones won on *Sweet Rascal* and *Lynwood Lad* and his sister Pip scored on *Celtic Remorse*.

Another nine race card was staged at Llanvapley in 1992 and it was at this meeting that the brilliant and quirky grey *Brunico*, who that year won all his 12 races including the Lady Dudley Cup, won the men's open race under usual rider Ron Trellogen.

Pontypridd's Robert Rowsell won the confined on the useful *Solars Pride* and Bridgend's Paul Hamer a division of the restricted on *Willie McGarr*.

The following year, 1993, Rudry's Tim Jones, who taught Cheltenham Gold Cup winner *Norton's Coin* to jump fences, chalked up his 100th winner on *Zephyr Nights*.

The last time racing was held at Llanvapley was in 2015 when Beth Roberts' prolific *Chesnut Annie*, ridden by Emma Moseley, won the ladies' open race beating *Fine Resolve* partnered by Rachel Leyshon.

Leading rider James Tudor from Cowbridge, who had won the men's open race on *Repeat Business*, won the very last race to be staged at Llanvapley on Banned In Bhutan.

To name all the famous horses and riders who competed at Llanvapley which was one of the best viewing courses in Wales one would need to write a book!

Brian Lee

Point to point racing returns to Redlands Farm

PHOTOGRAPHS

by GLYN EVANS

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POINT to Point racing returned to Redlands Farm, Bonvilston for the first time in seven years on Easter Saturday, and the organisers were delighted with the huge crowds came out in the sunshine to enjoy a day's racing.

For a full report on the successful runners and riders, please see Brian Lee, On and Off the Turf, on page 35.

Vale rider Isabel's Lydstep success

LLANCARFAN'S Isabel Williams notched-up her third winner between-the-flags this season at the well-attended South Pembrokeshire Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Lydstep near Tenby on Easter Monday.

Riding her grandmother Mary Evans's 12-year-old former National Hunt performer *Hold Court* in the ladies' open race she rode a well-judged race to win by 25 lengths from the Llangeinor horse *Patricktom Boru*, ridden by Jodie Hughes, and in doing so won the award for the best riding performance of the day judged by the race commentator Edward Williams.

Isabel, who has also ridden a number of winners under Rules, said: "I was thrilled with the way he ran, over the moon in fact."

Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft , who had celebrated his 31st birthday 24 hours earlier, won the restricted on the blinkered *Holy Water* which won by 12 lengths from the pace-making *Snow Puma.*

Ben Jones, who had a hat-trick at Saturday's Glamorgan fixture, came away with a double this time.

He won the opening members' race on the odds-on *Midnight Folie*, coming home a distance ahead of *The Doc*, and he won the men's open on the 12-year-old hooded *Walkabout Creek* after the odds-on favourite *Don Bersy*, partnered by Welsh champion Bradley Gibbs, was very slowly away at the start giving his three rivals a good start.

The Llangeinor horse *NorthGeorge*, ridden by Jack Tudor, appeared to be going well only to slip up on the bend on the first circuit. *Walkabout Creek* was a first winner for schoolteacher Dawn Smedley, who said: "He's a real pleasure to train.'' At 12, *Walkabout Creek* was the oldest of the four runners.

In a match for the Intermediate race, the odds-on *Highway Jewel,* partnered by Welsh champion Bradley Gibbs, came home 25 lengths ahead of *Rupera Tom* ridden by Jack Tudor.

Highway Jewel is trained by Bradley's father David, and one of the mare's owners is Welsh rugby international Cory Hill. *Highway Jewel* was winning for the third time on the bounce but it was the first time that Cory had seen her race!

The French-bred *Airpur Desbois*, trained by former rugby player Gareth Moore at Pyle near Bridgend, and partnered by James King, 23, won the aged maiden race by one-and-a-quarter lengths from *Italian Symphony* much to the delight of his owner hunt-racing stalwart Mrs Carmen Goldsworthy.

Brian Lee

Busy weekend at golf club

GOOD Friday saw the annual Wayfarers Challenge match at Brynhill Golf Club.

The top dog on a day of disappointing scores, with 36 points, was Ritchie Jones.

Sunday saw the season's first better ball medal contested, with the Junior Gold Cup up for grabs.

The best on the day was John Kirkpatrick and Richard Mason's 64, the same number as second placed Richard Pierce and Nick Topley but with a better back nine. Kirkpatrick and Mason now go on to represent Brynhill in the prestigious Daily Mail Foursomes.

This Sunday the Barry club holds a qualifier for the Bristol Cup, a fourball knockout contest where players have to complement each other's game.

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Great season for Barry Athletic FC

WITH some of the most important games in its history coming up in May, Barry Athletic Football Club have almost completed their 73rd season and it has been another very successful year for the club.

Off the pitch the current committee continue to work tirelessly to provide opportunities for the local footballing community. A new central heating system has finally been installed in the clubhouse after going for over a decade with no heating, the toilets have been refurbished and the kitchen is currently being relocated to provide refreshments to players and spectators.

Thousands of pounds have been raised via external funding bids and internal fundraisers. Funding has also been secured for new flooring via VOGC Strong Communities Fund and plans are gathering pace to renovate and modernise the changing rooms next winter.

The club were thrilled to progress from Standard to Bronze Accreditation status via the Football Association of Wales. A fitting tribute to the development and growth seen at the Athletic over the past five years.

On the pitch the Athletic fielded teams for 2018/19 in every mini age group (ages 6-11), two junior under-12 teams, an under-18 youth team and two men's teams. With over 200 players now registered, an infrastructure is being built to ensure the club has a sustainable future.

The men's A team have won the VOGAFL Premier League title for the 15th time. The trophy was secured with a 3-1 victory over Island Marine and the club were presented with the shield by match referee Mark Harvey.

With back-to-back titles in the trophy cabinet the club feel they are ready for a new challenge and have applied for promotion to the South Wales Alliance League. They will play other league winners from across south Wales to decide which three teams get promoted. Each game will be like a cup final and the support of local people would be very much appreciated.

Matches will be played from May 13-25, but exact dates, venues and times are not known at time of writing – follow the club's social media accounts for more details.

The club president, Adrian Heathfield, and his wife Deanna will be running the London Marathon on Sunday, April 28 for two very good causes: The Shaw Trust and The Brian Heathfield Memorial Fund.

Barry Athletic FC wish them both the very best of luck, if you would like to sponsor them then please visit mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/adeanddee2019.

The committee would like to thank every sponsor, player, coach and parent from all its age groups for their continued support and commitment.

If anyone would like to contact the club about any sponsor, coaching or playing opportunities please email Ady Gratton at chairman@barryathleticfc.uk.

AG

The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

AFC Rhoose B clinched the Second Division championship with a comprehensive 6-1 win over Vale Madrid.

St Athan B sealed second spot, finishing three points off top with a 5-3 victory over Barry Athletic B. Barry Vikings' end of season dip in form continued as they were trounced 7-1 by Penarth Town. Congratulations to AFC Rhoose B on their title win.

In the Premier Division, second-placed AFC Rhoose edged out champions Barry Athletic 4-3 in a thriller. Although it has absolutely no effect or bearing on the league it's still a fine win for Rhoose.

Athletic now look ahead to their SWFA Alliance League promotion play-off.

Island Marine wrapped up their season with a emphatic thrashing of bottom side St Athan.

In Division One, champions Holton Road finished their campaign with a 5-2 victory over a spirited Cwm Talwg side and Cardiff Airport saw off Cadoxton Barry 3-1 to seal fifth place.

This weekend it's the final handful of games and the Vale showpiece, the Barry Cup final at Jenner Park on Sunday between Penarth and Cowbridge.

HD

Friendly derby for bowls teams

SULLY Sports Bowls Club opened their season hosting nearest neighbours Sully Bowls Club in a friendly last Saturday, April 20 on a warm sunny afternoon in a game played with great camaraderie and competitiveness.

The first act of camaraderie came before the game commenced when, with the Sports a man short, Paul Spay from the Sully club stepped in to ensure a full team on both sides.

Although the Sports won 80-46 on aggregate, and won on all four rinks, things were tight on three rinks for much of the game.

Lee Romans was behind until the sixth end, then lost the lead on the 10th to finally regain it on the 15th and ease to a win.

G Brown's rink, although never behind, were level after eight ends, but pulled away in the remaining 10 ends, and on K Aguis' rink, the lead changed hands five times until a strong final four ends saw them home.

Rink scores: A Thompson, P Collier, G Currie, G Brown 25-13; B Knight, P Spay, L Adams, R Matthews 16-9; P Holland, D Davies, C Coomber, L Romans 19-12; D Austin, M Stafford, B Whyman, K Agius 20-12.

This Saturday, April 27 Sully Sports visit Pontyclun in the PG1s, and then Penarth Winsor in a friendly on May 1.

It's not too late for new members to join, who will be most welcome, whether experienced players or beginners; just turn up at the club, or contact Peter Holland (secretary) on 01446 622490 or Graham Brown (captain) on 01446 737274.

MS

Llangeinor point-to-point is popular at Pyle

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THE Dunraven Stud, the equestrian home of Dawn and David Brace, hosted the recent Llangeinor Pentyrch Point-to-Point.

The sun shone and crowds flocked to the venue for what proved to be a great day out – with competitive racing.

Successful jockeys on the day were Jack Tudor, who rode a treble, and Byron Moorcroft, who brought home two winners.

Vital win for Barry RFC

BARRY RFC travelled to Llanharan on Wednesday night knowing that only maximum points would do as they continued the hunt for promotion.

Coaches Jon Bryant and Liam Scott were able to welcome back Einan Scott and Tom Lee at half backs, with Kyle Barros reverting to full back. Sion Vidal and Sam Bowditch were recalled in the front row with Dave Provis also returning in the pack.

Barry tried to play a wide game right from the off, but whether it was the floodlights, the midweek fixture or the changed personnel, the enthusiasm in attack was not matched by the accuracy. The visitors did take the lead, however, when Barross converted a penalty opportunity.

The hosts, showing a much-changed side to the one that faced Barry just weeks ago, pounced on some uncertain play from the green-and-whites and retaliated with a well-worked try out wide which was unconverted to take the lead.

Stung, Barry stormed forward and this time they showed more structure and patience as they began to make their dominance in their backs tell.

However, it was the forwards who finally produced the breakthrough, with Lucas Davies burrowing over for the team's first try. Barross added the extras to put Barry 10-5 up.

Sensing the momentum swinging their way, Barry did not let up in their attack as they searched for another score. Chances were created but a lack of accuracy, and some curious refereeing decisions, saw no more scores until the stroke of half-time.

This time, the forwards laid on the platform to allow the time and space for Tom Perry to cut a line through the Llanharan defence to score under the posts. Barross' conversion made it 17-5.

At half-time the job was only half done and after the interval the visitors continued to go for the jugular as they searched for the bonus point.

After Barros' unerring boot added another three points, a third try duly arrived when a break out on the left saw smart exchanges and good hands, with the ball finally reaching Brad White, who finished expertly. Barross again added the extras.

The win was now almost secured but it was the fourth try that Barry wanted. Llanharan still had the upper hand in the scrum but Barry were able to negate that threat with some excellent back row work from Harry Moyle, John Miles, and Provis.

After weathering some sustained Llanharan pressure, substitute Alyn Evans made the break in midfield which set up the field position for Barry to unleash the backs, cutting through the home defence to see White storm through for his second try, and his team's fourth.

With Saturday's crucial game at Taff's Well in mind, the coaches emptied the bench but there was no let up for Llanharan as the visitors continued their assault on the home line.

It was Dave Provis' turn next to get on the scoresheet as the veteran powered over in the corner for an unconverted score.

The home side continued to battle hard but were visibly tiring as they conceded penalties and territory. There was still time for substitute Chris Lockyer to break through for a fine individual try with Einan Scott converting. The final score was 44-5. **KC**

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15 15 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI Black Edition 4dr, 19"alloys, Bluetooth, PDC, DAB, 28k, silver, half-leather £15995
18 18 AUDI A4 AVANT 2.0 TDI Ultra SE Estate, Audi warranty May 2021, sat nav, cruise, privacy glass, Bluetooth, 2k, blue £21995
16 16 AUDI A6 2.0 TDI Ultra S-Line 4dr S-Tronic Automatic sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather....£17795
17 17 AUDI A6 2.0 TDI Ultra Black Edition 4dr S-Tronic, Audi warranty June 2020, sat nav, BOSE, 25k, white, full leather £22995
16 16 AUDI TT 1.8 TFSI S-Line 2dr, 19"alloys, sound + comfort pack, 21k, grey, half-leather....£19995
17 17 AUDI Q2 1.6 TDI S-Line 5dr, Audi warranty April 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 17k, white, half-leather....£20995
15 15 AUDI Q3 2.0 TDI SE 5dr, LED headlight pack, Privacy glass, 17"Alloys, 25k, blue....£15795
15 65 BMW 116 D M Sport 3dr, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 29k, choice £11995
16 16 BMW 116 D Sport 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, aux, usb, black.....
....£11995
12 62 BMW 118 D Exclusive Edition 2dr Coupe, Bluetooth, USB, 59k, grey, full leather....£8495
16 16 BMW 118 2.0 D M Sport 5dr, sat nav, cruise, privacy glass, 27k, white £13995
15 64 BMW M135i 3.0 M Sports 5dr automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, 34k, orange, full oyster leather £16495
15 65 BMW 320 D BluePerformance Plus 4dr Automatic, sat nav, sport seats, black, full leather....£13995
16 66 BMW 320 D M Sport GT 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, pro sat nav, heated seats, cruise, silver, full leather £15295
16 66 BMW 420 D M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, pro nav, heated seats, 29k, black, full leather....£19495
16 66 BMW 430 D M Sport Gran Coupe Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2019, pro sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, black, full leather £19795
16 16 BMW 430 D M Sport 2dr Automatic, M sport + pack, body kit, sat nav, reverse camera, individual san marino blue, full leather....£25995
16 16 BMW 430i M Sport 2dr Automatic, M sport plus pack, 19" alloys, Harman Kardon, wide screen sat nav, met grey, full leather....£20995
14 14 BMW 640 DM Sport 2dr Automatic, sunroof, sat nav, head up display, soft close doors, 43k, carbon black, full ivory white leather £19495
16 16 DS DS3 1.2 Puretech Elegance 3dr, ds warranty until June 2019, cruise, dab, 17"black alloys, 17k, yellow....£8995
17 66 DACIA SANDERO STEPWAY 0.9 TCE Ambiance 5dr, Dacia warranty Feb 2020, air-con, Bluetooth, 29k, black £6995
18 68 DACIA SANDERO STEPWAY 0.9 TCE Comfort 5dr, Dacia warranty Nov 2021, sat nav, air-con, 6k, white....£9795
15 15 FIAT 500 1.2 Vintage 57 3dr, Bluetooth, aux, usb, 9k, beige, full leather £6795
18 67 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, Fiat warranty Feb 2021, pan roof, cruise, Bluetooth, pdc, 9k, blue....£8495
16 16 FIAT 500X 1.3 MultiJet Pop 5dr, cruise, air-con, aux, usb, red.....
....£7795
16 65 FORD C-MAX 1.0 EcoBoost Titanium 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, 36k, black £10495
15 65 FORD ECOSPORT 1.0 EcoBoost Titanium 5dr, Bluetooth, cruise, 25k, black, half-leather £8995
17 66 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost 140 ST-Line 3dr, Ford warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, cruise, 11k, choice....£9495
16 66 FORD FIESTA 1.5 TDCI Titanium 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, aux, usb, 20k £8795
16 65 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Zetec Estate, sat nav, rear park assist, white £8995
16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Titanium X Estate, Ford warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 17"alloys, 29k, black, half-leather....£12495
16 65 FORD GRAND C-MAX 2.0 TDCI Titanium X Navigation 5dr (7-Seater), pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 6k, blue £15495
17 17 HONDA CIVIC 1.5 VTEC Sport 5dr (180bhp), Honda warranty April 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 23k, blue....£14995
16 16 HYUNDAI i30 1.6 CRD SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty March 2021, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, choice £8495
17 67 HYUNDAI IONIQ 1.6 GDI Hybrid SE 5dr DCT Automatic, Hyundai warranty Nov 2022, reverse camera, cruise, 8k, silver....£15795
16 16 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive SE Nav 5dr, Hyundai warranty until Jan 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 27k, choice..£12995
18 68 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive Go SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 3k, white £18995
16 66 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D (180) R-Sport 4dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather....£18295
16 65 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D (180) Portfolio 4dr, pan roof, head up display, sat nav, reverse camera, 30k, bronze, full leather....£16995
17 17 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D 180 Portfolio 4dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty March 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, choice, full leather....£18995
10 10 KIA PICANTO 1.1 Strike 5dr, air-con, electric windows, 37k, red.....
....£2795
17 66 KIA PICANTO 1.25 Sport 5dr, Kia warranty Feb 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 8k, black, half-leather....£8995
16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 GDI ISG2 5dr, Kia warranty march 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, usb, 30k, blue....£13495
16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI ISG 4 5dr, Kia warranty March 2023, sat nav, pan roof, 29k, black, full leather....£15995
17 67 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 3 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty Sept 2024, pan roof, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, 19k, blue, full leather £17995
15 65 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 ED4 SE 5dr, contrast roof, privacy glass, white, full leather....£20495
16 16 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 ED4 SE 5dr, 18"alloys, 12k, black, full leather....£20495
17 67 MAZDA 6 2.2 D (175) Sport Nav Estate, Mazda warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, heated seats, 13k, blue, full leather.....
....£16995
17 17 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 D Sport Nav 5dr, Mazda warranty April 2020, sat nav, BOSE, cruise, 21k, grey, full leather £17995
16 16 MAZDA MX-5 1.5 SE 2dr Convertible, air-con, alloys, aux, usb, 26k, black....£10995
15 65 MERCEDES A180 1.5 CDI Sport 5dr Automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, 35k, silver £13795
16 16 MERCEDES A200 2.2 D Sport Executive 5dr, sat nav, blue, full leather £13495
18 67 MERCEDES C300H AMG Line Hybrid 4dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Feb 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, silver, 6k, full leather.....£24495
16 16 MERCEDES C350 E Sport Premium Plus Estate Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, grey, full leather £21995
15 65 MERCEDES CLA200 D Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, privacy glass, 33k, grey, half-leather....£16995
16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 D AMFG Line Coupe Automatic, Mercedes warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, cruise, 30k, white, half-leather....£19995
16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 S 6dr Automatic, Mini warranty Dec 2019, chilli + JCW pack, Media – sat nav, pan roof, 6k, choice, half-leather....£17995
15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 5dr, chilli + tlc pack, cruise, Bluetooth, 14k, choice, half-leather £10995
16 65 MINI COOPER 2.0 SD 3dr, JCW sport pack, media xl – sat nav, met blue £11995
17 67 MINI COOPER 2.0 S Seven 5dr (192bhp), Mini warranty Oct 2020, chilli pack, sat nav, cruise, 7k, choice, half-leather....£14795
15 65 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 29k, choice, full leather....£12995
15 15 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr, pan roof, cruise, privacy glass, grey £11995
15 65 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI N-Tec 5dr (7-Seater), pan roof, sat nav, white....£15495
17 67 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr Xtronic Automaic (7-Seater), Nissan warranty Oct 2020, pan roof, cruise, 9k, blue £16995
17 17 PEUGEOT 208 1.6 BlueHDI Active 5dr, Peugeot warranty April 2020, air-con, Bluetooth, dab, grey £6995
16 16 PEUGEOT 308 1.6 BlueHDI 120 Active 5dr, sat nav, cruise, pdc, 19k, black....£8995
17 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE Energy Expression + 5dr, Renault warranty Nov 2021, Bluetooth, cruise, 6k, black £10295
18 68 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE 90 Iconic 5dr, Renault warranty Oct 2022, sat nav, Bluetooth, 5k, red £12495
17 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Dynaique 90 S Nav 5dr, Renault warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, cruise, pdc, Bluetooth, 10k, grey....£11995
15 65 RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCI 90 Dynamique S Nav 5dr, Renault warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 37k, black....£7795
17 17 RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.6 DCI Energy Dynamique Nav 5dr (7-Seater), Renault warranty July 2021, sat nav, 20"alloys, 34k, blue, half-leather £13995
16 16 RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S Nav 5dr, Renault warranty March 2020, sat nav, 19"alloys, cruise, 19k, white....£13295
17 67 SEAT ALHAMBRA 2.0 TDI CR Ecomotive SE (150) 5dr (7-Seater), Seat warranty Dec 2020, cruise, Bluetooth, choice from £17295
17 17 SEAT ATECA 1.4 EcoTSI Xcellence 5dr, Seat warranty March 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 23k, white, full leather £17495
17 67 SEAT LEON 1.4 TSI 125 FR Technology 5dr, Seat warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 8k, choice from....£12995
17 67 SKODA KODIAQ 1.4 TSI Editon 150 5dr DSG Automatic (7-Seater), Skoda warranty Nov 2020, pan roof, sat nav, heated seats, 8k, brown, full leather £24495
16 16 SUZUKI VITARA 1.6 SZ-T 5dr, Suzuki warranty Aug 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, dab, 25k, red....£10995
15 64 VAUXHALL ADAM 1.4 I (100) Slam 3dr, 18"black alloys, air-con, 43k, black....£6495
16 66 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI SRI 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2019, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 16k, grey....£9795
17 67 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI Elite 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, 20k, silver, full leather £11295
15 15 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 T (100bhp) Limited Edition 3dr, cruise, 17"black alloys, 42k, red £5995
18 18 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 T White Edition (150) 3dr, Vauxhall warranty July 2021, air-con, cruise, white....£11295
16 66 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI 170 SRI VX-Line 5dr Automatic, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2019, 19"alloys, sat nav, cruise, 22k, black £12295
16 16 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 Exclusive 5dr, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, black....£7995
15 65 VW GOLF 1.4 TSI BMT ACT GT 5dr, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 46k, silver £11995
14 14 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 5dr DSG Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, silver....£13995
16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 5dr, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, white .....
....£14295
16 66 VW POLO 1.4 TSI ACT Blue GT 3dr, VW warranty Dec 2019, electric glass sunroof, Bluetooth, cruise, 32k, met blue....£11295
17 67 VOLVO V40 2.0 T3 (152) R-Design Pro 5dr, Volvo warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 18"alloys, 18k, choice £13995
18 68 VOLVO V40 2.0 T3 (152) R-Design Nav Plus 5dr, Volvo warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, red, only 239 miles, half-leather.....£16995
16 16 VOLVO V60 2.0 D3 (150) R-Design Estate, cruise, aux, usb, red, half-leather £12495
18 18 VOLVO S90 2.0 D4 R-Design 4dr Automatic, Volvo warranty March 2021, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 6k, black, half-leather £22995

18 18 FORD S-MAX 2.0 TDCI ST-Line 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Ford warranty March 2021, sat nav, 19"alloys, 22k, **£23995**

15 15 BMW 116 D Sport 3dr, Bluetooth, dab, 17"alloys, air-con, black **£9995**

17 17 BMW 330 E M Sport 4dr Automatic, M sport + pack, 19"alloys, reverse cmaera, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, black, full leather **£19995**

15 15 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper 5dr, 17"alloys, aux, usb, white, half-leather **£9995**

18 18 BMW 520 I M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty July 2021, sat nav, xenons, cruise, 15k, white, full leather **£26495**

17 67 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI SE 5dr Automatic, VW warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, cruise, 11k, grey **£21995**

18 68 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Titnaium 5dr, Ford warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 3k, black **£17995**

15 15 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, air-con, choice **£5295**

16 16 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 Cooper D 5dr, sat nav, chilli pack, heated seats, 35k, silver **£12495**

15 15 MERCEDES C220 CDI Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, black, full leather **£12995**

15 15 FORD FIESTA 1.25 82 Zetec 5dr, air-con, alloys, aux, usb, black **£6295**

18 18 BMW X1 2.0 SDrive D M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty April 2021, sat nav, heated setas, privacy glass, blue, full **£20995**

15 65 CITROEN C4 GRAND PICASSO 1.6 BlueHDI Selection 5dr (7-Seater), pan roof, cruise, 31k, white **£9995**

17 17 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, Nissan warranty Aug 2020, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 29k, grey **£14995**

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In red, 73,000 miles, very nice example
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Metallic white, 50,000 miles, black leather trim
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On and Off The Turf with Brian Lee

JACK Tudor, 16 of Merthyr Mawr, landed his biggest win to date when he was successful in the Cheltenham Pony Racing Authority Graduates Handicap Hurdle at Cheltenham last Wednesday, April 17 on *Uno Mas*, trained by former National Hunt jockey of note Christian Williams at Ogmore-By-Sea.

Uno Mas, a 14-1 shot, won by a neck from *Cornborough*, ridden by Miss Abbie McCain, and took the £9,285 first prize.

Earlier in the day *ToBeFair*, ridden by usual jockey Thomas Bellamy, won the Safron Landing Systems Handicap Hurdle by five lengths from the bottom-weighted *Broughtons Admiral*.

A 15-2 chance, *ToBeFair* is trained in west Wales by Debra Hamer from the Bridgend area and her husband Paul is a former Welsh champion point-to-point rider.

Twenty-four hours earlier at Exeter, Chepstow's Robert Stephens was successful with *Tudors Treasure*, which won the handicap chase under Tom O'Brien.

Made the 11-4 favourite, eight-year-old *Tudors Treasure* won by a length from *Kingston Mimosa*.

VALE POINT-TO-POINT

POINT-To-Point racing returned to Redlands Farm, Bonvilston in the Vale last Saturday for the first time since 2012, and the organisers who worked so hard to get the course in shape were rewarded with a huge crowd, probably the best seen at a point-to-point in Wales for some years.

There were numerous bookmakers in attendance and the day's riding honours went to west Wales' Ben Jones, age 18 who rode his first ever hat-trick.

Ben won the Conditions race on *Gun Shy*, the Timico Mixed Open on *Princely Player* and the Restricted on *Manhattan Mead*.

Gun Shy won by eight lengths from Bradley Gibbs' mount *Mr Sawyer*, and Jones said: "He travelled well throughout."

Winning owner-trainer Chepstow's Tommy Faulkner, who was saddling his seventh winner of the season, and who admitted to backing his horse, said: "We paid 2,000 guineas for him at the Ascot Sales and he's a tricky fellow to train but all going well he will run at the Cheltenham Hunter Chase evening meeting next month."

Princely Player, owned by The KP & Nuts Racing Club, and trained by National Hunt trainer Peter Hobbs' sister-in-law Karen Hobbs and qualified with the Vine and Craven Hunt in Berkshire, drew clear two fences from home from the pacemaking *Yeats Ace* (Bradley Gibbs) to win by 10 lengths with the odds-on *Hidden Charmer* (Jack Tudor) a further 12 lengths away in third spot.

"He's a sleepy sort but he stays all day," said Jones, who had won on the 12-year-old at Hereford Racecourse on April 7.

The third leg of Ben's hat-trick came in the Restricted when the blinkered *Manhattan Mead* led at the last to beat the pacemaking *Robbina* (Jack Tudor) by one-and-a-half lengths.

Backed from 8-1 to 6-1, *Manhattan Mead* is owned by hunt-racing stalwart Gwynne Phillips and trained by former Welsh champion point-to-point rider Paul Hamer in Carmarthen.

Seven faced the starter for the Aged Maiden race and Welsh champion Bradley Gibbs, riding the eight-year-old *Chase Me* for Ledbury trainer James Ridley, finished 10 lengths ahead of the favourite *SamDibien*, trained by former leading Welsh National Hunt jockey Sam Thomas.

Bradley, who received a phone call the night before the races offering him the ride, said: "The farther we went the better *Chase Me* jumped."

Of the five horses that went to post for the Young Horse Maiden, the youngest of them, the four-year-old Tim Vaughan-trained *Loco CoCo* led approaching the penultimate fence and went on to score by one-and-a-half lengths from Gibbs' mount *Thomas Crown.*

The Irish-bred *Loco CoCo* was ridden by Morgan Winstone, aged 18, who was chalking-up his first winner between-the flags.

Morgan, who works for Tim Vaughan at nearby Aberthin, hails from Pontypool and has also ridden a winner under Rules.

In a match for the Hunt Members race, the eight-year-old *Rio Bravo*, owned by Miss Claire Sherriff and partnered by Bradley Gibbs, made nearly all the running and despite jumping to the left went on to win by 15 lengths from the odds-on *Blazing Tom* (Jack Tudor).

Rio Bravo is trained by Bradley's father David Gibbs at Ynysbwl.

VALE TRAINERS' WEEKEND SUCCESS

VALE trainers Evan Williams and Christian Williams – no relation, although the latter was at one time Evan's assistant trainer – were both in good form over the Easter weekend.

So was Pembrokeshire's Peter Bowen, as at Newton Abbot on Saturday he won the big handicap chase with *Lord Bryan* and Ogmore-By-Sea's Christian Williams saddled *Primal Focus*, winner of the earlier chase on the card.

Lord Bryan, owned by Gwyn Brace and his daughter Jayne from the Vale, was ridden by Sean Bowen and *Primal Focus*, at five the youngest horse in the race, was partnered by Nick Scholfield.

At Haydock, Bowen was successful with *Minella Daddy* who was partnered by his younger son James Bowen.

Twenty-four hours later at Ffos Las, Peter Bowen was back in the winners' enclosure after winning the novices' hurdle with *Statuario* and the handicap chase with *Alf 'N' Dor*, both ridden by Sean Bowen.

Another trainer to land a Ffos Las double was Evan Williams. He won the opening mares' handicap with the bottom weighted *Mac Bella* and the West Wales National Handicap with *Pobbles Bay*, both ridden by stable jockey Adam Wedge.

Christian Williams' *Win My Wings* easily took the maiden hurdle under Nick Scholfield, coming home 19 lengths ahead of the long odds-on favourite *Volcano*.

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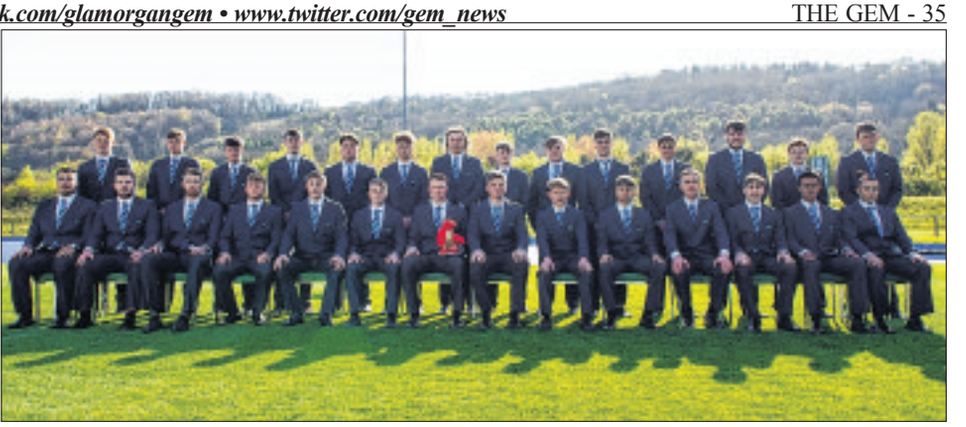

CAVC Rugby Academy players will represent Wales at top youth tournament in Japan

CARDIFF and Vale College's Rugby Academy team is jetting out to Japan to represent Wales at a prestigious international rugby tournament.

Now in its 12th year, the Sanix World Rugby Youth Invitational Tournament is held every year in Fukuoka prefecture in Japan. Teams participate by invitation only, and are chosen because of their high standard.

The tournament has become renowned as the pinnacle of youth rugby, with the champions being considered the strongest youth team in the world.

The only other UK college taking part in the tournament is Exeter College. The CAVC Rugby Academy, which is made up from students across CAVC who are studying a range of different courses, will travel out to Japan on April 25.

Martyn Fowler, director of rugby at Cardiff and Vale College, said: "Thirty of our finest young men are looking forward to representing the college, Cardiff Blues and the Welsh Rugby Union with great pride at the 2019 Sanix World Youth Tournament.

"Our third fixture is against favourites St Peter's College, Cambridge, representing New Zealand. This offers the boys the opportunity to face the formidable haka – a genuine privilege as not many teams or indeed individual players get an opportunity to do so.

"Teams representing Uruguay, South Africa, Russia, Korea and Australia will be competing with six additional teams from all parts of Japan. This is without question the tour of a lifetime – you can enjoy a rugby career of 15 years and never have the opportunity to be invited on a tour of this nature to a destination so rare and significant in a World Cup year.

"We are looking forward to fully immersing ourselves in the Japanese culture and hope to amplify the good name of Cardiff and Vale College and Wales on an international stage both on and off the pitch."

The squad has also been through a programme of training with the Welsh Rugby Players Association and Colegau Cymru to prepare them for their first international tour and to help them better understand Japanese language and culture.

The Rugby Academy squad captain will be 17-year-old Evan Lloyd from Penarth.

"I cannot wait – taking part in this tournament is going to be really good," Evan said. "It will be a new experience for all of us; I don't think any of the boys have played against teams from Fiji, Australia and New Zealand so it's going to be really good for all of us.

"I'm excited about going to Japan. From what we've seen in our training sessions it looks really good."

The Barry and District League tables and results

CRIB DIVISION 1:

League table: Rhoose Social 185, Wyndham Cons 175, Liberals 173, Cadoxton Cons 167, West End Runaways 164, West End 156, Moors Boys 150.

Team knockout final:

Liberals beat West End Runaways.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1:

West End C 4.5, Rhoose Social C 2.5; Slammers 6, Rhoosters 1; Liberals A 2, Allsorts 5; Rhoose Social B 5.5, King William XII 1.5; Cambrian Flyers 1, Sea View Exiles 6; Rhoose Social A 0, Barries Boys 7; West End D 6, Liberals C 1.

League table: Sea View Exiles 128.0, West End D 124.5, West End C 120.0, Allsorts 108.0, Rhoose Social C 103.0, Rhoosters 101.5, Rugby Club 98.5, Barry Town FC 98.0, King William XII 96.5, Slammers 92.0, Rhoose Social A 83.5, Barries Boys 78.0, Rhoose Social B 74.5, Liberals C 66.0, Liberals A 65.0, Cambrian Flyers 47.0.

SNOOKER DIVISION 1:

League Table: West End C 98, Savoy A 91, Harbour B 85, Wyndham Cons A 73, Cadoxton Cons B 69, Cadoxton Cons Z 67, Penarth Cons A 52, Rhoose Social B 43, *Liberators 42, Cadoxton Wildcats 41, Market Street B 37.

Team knockout cup semi-finals:

West End C beat Wyndham Cons A; Cadoxton Cons B beat Savoy A.

SNOOKER DIVISION 2:

League table: Savoy B 79, Rhoose Social C 75, Cadoxton Cons A 72, Penarth Cons B 72, *Services Social B 70, Market Street C 67, Wyndham Cons D 63, Harbour A 56, West End A 52, Sully Sports A 48, West End B 39.

Team knockout cup semi-finals:

Savoy B beat Market Street C; Penarth Cons B beat Rhoose Social C (* = points deducted).

View all results and league tables at barryleagues.co.uk.

JW

The Barry and District Mens Skittles League

DIVISION 1:

Final league table: 49ers 41, Geest 34, Bunker Boys 23, Posties 22, Willie Wombles 21, Blue Monkey 20, Merrymen 20, Sea View 19, Billy Whizz 17, British Rail 17, KP Rejects 16, Cannon Balls 14.

DIVISION 2:

H Bells 270 (B Webb 32), Ex-Servicemen 298 (D Stevens 37).

Final league table: Park Lads 38, Cavaliers 28, H Bells 26, Hairy Lemons 24, Witchill Poachers 22, Colcot Boys 20, Barry Park B 20, Mighty Dockers 19, Exiles 19, Tynny Lads 17, Ex-Servicemen 16, BP Breakaways 15.

DIVISION 3:

Final league table: Park Rangers 30, Castle Boys 24, Billy Bluebirds 22, Glenbrook Flyers 22, Witchill Nomads 20, Royalists 19, Cocoa Nuts 19, Abercrete 18, Alternatives 16, C.U.D. 10, Master Mariner 0.

Allform Cup semi-finals:

49ers beat Bunker Boys; Mighty Dockers beat Exiles.

View all results and league tables at barryleagues.co.uk.

JW

Rain a pain for golfers

WITH only a handful of players prepared to tee off in the early morning rain, St Mary's Golf Club's senior section's main competition of the week was called off.

Two days later, with a sizeable number of their members away on the section's annual two day jaunt to the courses of west Wales, a short field of 13 embarked on an individual Stableford competition.

Modest scoring belied the very pleasant conditions, with the best return of the day being a net one below par 35 points from competition secretary, Gordon Campbell.

After a lengthy winter lay-off, Ainslie Adams staged a near Tiger Woods-esque comeback to secure second place, two shots back on net 33 points. Former club captain, Fred Evans, took third with net 30 points.

NL

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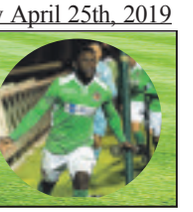

10-try Cowbridge overwhelm their luckless visitors

LAST Saturday, Cowbridge welcomed Cefn Coed RFC to the Athletic Ground on a beautiful, sunny spring afternoon.

The visitors have had a very difficult season, lying at the bottom of the league with just two points and struggling at times to raise a team.

However, they arrived with the full XV plus replacements and the first five minutes were fairly even. Then the floodgates opened and Cowbridge went on to score 14 tries and 10 conversions in a 90-5 victory.

It would take up too much space to describe every try ,but Cefn just could not cope with pace of the backs, particularly full back Josh Thomas and wings Adam Dix and Rhydian Williams and the power of the forwards.

There were hat-tricks for Williams and Thomas, a brace for Dix and one each for Sam Stephens, Dan Holder, Joe Davies, Aaron Bowman, Huw Lougher and Tom James.

There were five superb conversions by Sam Richards, two apiece for Dix and Williams and one for Zac Summerhayes.

So, the battle for promotion is now down to three teams with two going up.

Treharris top the table with 86 points from 19, Fairwater second with 81 from 21 and Cowbridge third with 79 from 20.

Cowbridge's penultimate game against Pentyrch is on April 24 so will have already been played by the time The GEM is circulated, and the final game is this Saturday at home against Clwb Rygbi – win both and we are definitely up.

Come down and support the boys for what should be a momentous end to the season.

RV/RK

Penllyn Bridge Club competition winners

MARCH 7, 18 pairs: first, Wayne Stephens and Mary Wallis 64.77 per cent; second, Margaret and Hugh Thomas 63.64 per cent; third, Marian East and Barbara Easterbrook 59.64 per cent.

March 14, 18 pairs: first, Dot Williams and Pam Hanmer 60.51; second, Marian East and Barbara Easterbrook 59.38; third, Margaret and Hugh Thomas 56.53.

March 21, 17 pairs: first, David and Marian Stephenson 66.67; second, Julia Evans and Fran Morgan 61.43; third, John Lord and Jo Ilsley 60.71.

March 28, 16 pairs: Robert Brown competition: first, Julie Evans and David Stephenson 59.64; second, Gill Harding and Rita Williams 58.93; third, Alan Beckwith and Brian Tucker 58.21.

Competition results for 2018 - 2019

Robert Brown Cup: Colin and Judith Nunn 87 points.

Second place, Alan Beckwith and Brian Tucker 73 points.

Third place, John Lord and Jo Ilsley 72 points.

Handicap competition: winners Vicki long and Sandra Collin 82 points.

Second, John Lord and Jo Ilsley 70 points.

Third, Helen and Mike Ruttley 65 points.

CN

Robert Brown competition winners.

Handicap Competition winners.

Got a sports story, match report or item of interest? Then get in touch with us - email sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Llantwit Major AFC waste golden opportunity

LLANTWIT Major AFC welcomed Briton Ferry to Windmill Lane determined to go one better than the 1-1 draw they achieved at Briton Ferry back in February.

In very hot conditions, and with a much-changed side due to injuries and suspensions following last week's game at Ammanford, Llantwit went immediately on the attack and their first real chance came in the seventh minute when Kyran Gardner was put through on goal only to be fouled on the edge of the Briton Ferry goal area which led to the Briton Ferry defender being sent off as he was deemed to be the last man by the referee.

Ten minutes later Llantwit took the lead when a pass by Kyran Gardner on the left hand side of the Briton Ferry goal area saw centre forward Ben Cripps go through on goal and the Briton Ferry goalkeeper could not prevent his shot from close range from going into the far corner of the net for a well-deserved goal.

This, you would have thought, would have spurred Llantwit on, but for some reason they sat back and were unduly punished when their opponents equalised on the half-hour mark. From their only chance so far in the game, from a free kick just outside the Llantwit goal area, they scored direct with a very good shot that gave the Llantwit goalkeeper Ben McCrum no chance.

Just before half-time there was further disaster from a Briton Ferry free kick into the Llantwit goal area. The ball was headed away to the edge of their own goal area and from around 25 yards out, the Briton Ferry midfielder hit a tremendous volley high into the corner of the Llantwit goal to give Briton Ferry the lead.

Llantwit started the second half on the attack and within the first 10 minutes they had two further chances to score, firstly from Ben Cripps, whose shot was straight at the keeper, and secondly from Kyran Gardner, who shot wide when he broke through.

Kyran was to have a further chance in the 68th minute but he was unlucky when he beat a number of defenders to break into his opponent's goal area. His shot hit the far post with the keeper beaten.

However, three minutes later, Briton Ferry, who had just been hanging on and defending their lead from one rare attack which resulted in a corner, increased their lead and scored a third goal. From the corner kick, Llantwit again cleared the ball to the edge of their area only for them to see a Briton Ferry player return a pass back to an unmarked colleague and from around eight yards out, the Briton Ferry player did not waste the opportunity.

Llantwit managed to get a consolation goal in injury time when Jonathan Fletcher scored with a fine shot from around 20 yards out from the edge of the goal area.

A minute later, Briton Ferry were denied a fourth goal when Ben McCrum had to pull off a fine save to save Llantwit any further embarrassment.

This was a very disappointing result for Llantwit, despite them making the perfect start and having the one man advantage for 80 minutes of the game.

This did not seem to galvanise them as they suffered another home defeat with their opponents thoroughly deserving their win on the day.

This defeat now sees Llantwit dropping to seventh in the league with only one game left to play this season, which will be at home to Haverfordwest on Saturday, April 27, kick-off 2.30pm.

Llantwit Major: Ben McCrum, Jamie Miller, Kristian Evans, Sean Williams, Connor Goldsworthy, Jonathan Fletcher, Kristian Smith (c) (Max Morgan 64), Mike Hartley (Nathan Renfree 58), Kyran Gardner, Josh Jones (Josh Morgan 77), Ben Cripps. Substitutes not used: Lewis Brown, Stuart Lindsey.

DJ

Could this be the (cricket) season for Cowbridge to rise up and triumph?

QUITE what Robert The Bruce thought of cricket is anyone's guess.

It's quite likely that he did not think about it at all as the chances of his coming across the game in medieval times would have been remote; similarly quite what Cowbridge Cricket captain Chris Willey thinks of spiders has yet to be recorded.

However, mix the components above into a legend, add a dash of whimsy and there you have the answer.

Chris needs to follow the example of the spider and fight just like the Scottish warlord to achieve his and his band of followers' ambition to rise up and be the champions again. Well, perhaps not be champions again, first time would do.

After all, Chris has tried three times to lead his side to the title and as yet has been sent home to think again.

With a group of noble cricketers, if perhaps not exactly noblemen, there is every chance his team will do their own version of Bannockburn.

The Bruce, a man who was forced to be patient and 'try, try and try' again is a role model for the Cowbridge skipper. Surely this must be the year that black, green and white ribbons festoon the Dan Radcliffe Cup?

It is sure to be a stronger league this year than last.

Llanelli and Llangnnech have been promoted into the South Wales Cricket Association Division One while Tata Steel have dropped down from the South Wales Premier League.

Visitors to the ground will recall the improvements of the refurbishments of the Fred Dunn Gates and the erection of the equipment shed.

During the winter, the Llwynhlig (please don't call it the bypass) End has been cleared of the out-of-control sycamores, the dying conifers and the metal screen.

The area has been replanted with a thousand Hornbeam whips and 12 specimen trees. This latter work has been helped by a most generous donation from Julian Ebsworth, a kinsman of E H Ebworth who had the ground constructed in 1895-6.

Additionally, there are now splendid picket fences around the car parks and the new John Bevan scoreboard will be installed next week.

There remains much to be done to bring the facilities up to an acceptable level in all respects. It will be difficult for the club to keep the levels of progress going, but try we must.

The earlier Mr Ebsworth had strong Scottish links and died in Melrose. During his time living at Llandough Castle, he was a substantial benefactor to sport in Cowbridge and district.

More than a 100 years later, our current link with the family, Julian, who is a rowing man, has revived and continued the association between his family and Cowbridge.

We look forward to a visit from the modern day Ebsworths during the summer and, given their Scottish credentials, they will understand if Chris Willey is being kind to spiders.

JRB

Cowbridge Darts League round-up

ON April 16, the Edmondes Arms hosted the Ladies' Singles Knockout competition.

It was an evening of competitive darts with 10 entries.

In both semi-finals it was the Farmers Arms versus the Victoria Inn with the players from the Victoria Inn in both cases victorious.

The final will have Katie George (Victoria Inn) play Amanda Edwards (Victoria Inn). In her semi-final Katie George defeated Pam 2-0.

It was a much closer game in the other semi-final with Amanda Edwards winning 2-1 against Shirley Evans (Farmers Arms).

Present league standings, after 18 weeks, are: Edmondes B (119 points), Highwayman Inn (105), Edmondes A (88), Farmers Arms (82), Llanharry (76), Victoria Inn (72), Hairy Farmers (69), One Town Hall Square (56), Edmondes C (50) and Red Lion Inn (21).

Next week, Tuesday, April 30, the Edmondes B hosts the Highwayman Inn, the Hairy Farmers hosts the Edmondes A, the Edmondes C hosts the One Town Hall Square, Llanharry hosts the Farmers Arms and the Victoria Inn hosts the Red Lion Inn.

This is the last league match of the season for the Edmondes B and the Hairy Farmers. The action will start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome.

For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

Old Hall Bridge Club

THE results for Old Hall Bridge Club for April 17 are as follows:

First, Barbara Easterbrook and Margaret Bancroft, 66.07 per cent; second, Ann Miller and Rita Williams, 60.71 per cent.

TP